

Living Under the Authority of Christ

Matthew 8-10

People hate submission. They hate submitting under the authority of anyone or anything (Isa. 5:20-21, Phil. 2:15). Nobody says, "I enjoy having others tell me what to do." There is such a pull to live a comfortable, safe life and to make a name for yourself. In Gen. 3:4-5, Satan tells Eve to not be under God but be as God. We have such a twisted view of Christianity. We don't want to submit. You want to be in control. We think that the downside of being a Christian is that I have all these rules but actually the positive aspect of being a Christian is that we get to be under the authority of Christ. Example: kids love their parents protection and provision but don't want their authority. We must teach them to be grateful to be under the authority. As Believers, we have the King to protect, provide, and be under His authority. He makes the commands and rules to lead us for our own good.

1. The Authority of Christ

- Authority over wind and _____ – Matt. 8:23-27
- Authority over _____ – Matt. 8:28-34
- Authority over _____ – Matt. 9:1-8

2. The _____ to this Authority – Matt. 9:9

- He says to Matthew "Follow Me."
- After all this, what do you think was going through Matthew's mind?
- If you knew of a man that calms the sea, casts out the demons, and heals a paralyzed man, do you think that is a "have to" moment? He wants me to follow Him!
- What does Matthew do? "He arose and followed Him."
- He knew what to do...get up and follow Him.
- He didn't say, "I'm going to sit here and pray but my heart goes with you."
- It's better to be under Christ's authority than for me to be in control.
- The American dream of a cute family and safe, comfortable living pales in comparison to following Christ.

3. The _____ of Being Under the Authority of Christ – Matt. 10

- The disciples get sent out on a mission. - vss. 1, 7-10
- We've lost the understanding of simple obedience. We study and talk of Scripture but we must go and follow Christ.
- First we follow, then know that we will suffer. - vss. 16-25, 1 Peter 4:1, 2 Tim. 3:12
- Matt. 24:14 is great but it requires vss. 9-13 first.
- We must remember that He is a loving, perfect Father that gave Himself for me and wants to lead me.

As scary as it would be for Matthew to follow to say, "I'll pick up and follow Christ," it would be scarier to let Christ walk away.

