



1 JOHN 4:4-6

- a) We BELONG to God.
- b) We have the SPIRIT OF TRUTH.
- c) We have ALREADY WON victory, because we CARRY within us the GREATEST power in the universe.

HE LIVES IN YOU

- a) Paul called us TEMPLES of the Holy Spirit.
 - b) Joel prophesied that God would POUR OUT His Spirit upon ALL FLESH.
 - c) Jesus said we'd be CLOTHED with POWER.
 - d) He also said that He'd send another PARACLETE to lead, guide & teach us.
- "1 John 4:4 should utterly change your world." Discuss!
- How aware are you of the Holy Spirit IN you? What does it mean to be a 'temple' of the Holy Spirit? Do you let Him act as your paraclete / helper? Are you clothed with power? What does that even mean?

A. WHO ARE YOU FILLED WITH? WHAT DO YOU CARRY?

When 1 John 4:4 says GREATER, it means GREATER (Jer 32:17, Matt 19:26, Eph 1:19-21).

What was destroyed as a result of Cross & resurrection (1 John 3:8)?

- * Not EVERYTHING or we'd be living in a DEVIL-FREE world.
 - * But things are NOTICEABLY DIFFERENT now than they were before the resurrection.
 - * Terms have completely changed for the DEVIL as well as believers.
- What has changed since the cross & resurrection? How have things changed for believers? How have they changed for the enemy & his forces?
- How should this reality affect how we read the Old Testament? What was different for them? What did they have that we don't? We do we have that they didn't?

AUTHORITY: God has ALL the authority in your life & the enemy has NONE (Matt 28:18, 16:19, Col 1:20-21, 2:14-15, James 4:7, Luke 10:19).

- * Authority is the RIGHT to exercise POWER.
- * The enemy's right was STRIPPED on the CROSS (Col 2:14-15).
- * The devil is a LAIR and will do a good job of trying to CONVINCe you OTHERWISE (Hosea 4:6).
- * The only authority he has is what you GIVE him through SIN, UNBELIEF, FEAR, ETC. ... effectively opening a DOOR.

→ What is authority and how does it relate to power? Is it possible to have power but no authority?

→ If the enemy has no authority over you, what does that mean in practical terms?

→ "The chains the enemy tries to convince you have you bound are not real." Discuss!

* SIN gives the devil a FOOTHOLD (Ephesians 4:26-27).

→ What door does sin open for the devil? What happens if he can force his way through that door? How do we shut it again?

POWER: The enemy has been DISARMED, even if not TOTALLY.

* There are now serious LIMITATIONS on his power that were not in place before the CROSS & RESURRECTION.

* The greatest difference is that the authority he once held has now been DELEGATED to US, the Body of Christ.

→ In your life, in the way you live and think and respond, what is the split of those 100 power points between God and the devil? What would it look like to live as though it were 40-60 in the enemy's favour? How does that change if it's 100:1?

→ How has the enemy been disarmed? What power remains? How is the Lord going to finally deal with that?

B. WHAT DIFFERENCE SHOULD THAT MAKE IN YOUR LIFE?

- * You CARRY His PRESENCE and POWER everywhere you go, all the time.
- * You have FULL ACCESS to the presence, power, WISDOM, GRACE & LOVE of God who lives IN you, goes WITH you and wants to operate THROUGH you.
- * If only the church KNEW whom it CARRIED and the AUTHORITY it wielded, the world would be a very DIFFERENT place

→ Does 1 John 4:4 make a difference in your life? What difference could or should it make? What mindset shifts are required for it to make more of a difference?

C. WHAT DIFFERENCE SHOULD THAT MAKE IN THE LIVES OF THOSE IN OUR SPHERE OF INFLUENCE?

- * When you ENTER the ROOM, WHAT comes with you?
- * Requires a MINDSET SHIFT: Do I not have WITHIN me, EVERYTHING that person / situation / crisis needs?
- * You bring into every room with you the LOVE of God, the PRINCE of PEACE and the presence of the HOLY One.
- * How do we destroy the enemy's work / change atmosphere / impact world? By ATTENDING to the power of the GREATER ONE within.

→ If you're honest, when you enter the room, what does come with you? What could or should come with you, if you were more aware of 1 John 4:4?

→ "You are a power-pack waiting to explode." Discuss!

What happens when fear + anxiety come knocking?

Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world

- **IT IS WRITTEN:** *Never will He leave me nor forsake me*
- *God hasn't given me a spirit of fear, but love, power + sound mind*
- *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer + petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts + your minds in Christ Jesus.*

When enemy starts undermining your identity in Christ?

Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world

- **IT IS WRITTEN:** *Even before he made the world, God loved us + chose us in Christ to be holy + without fault in his eyes.*
- *Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand*
- *And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, + God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.*

When he tries to humiliate & oppress you with shame game?

Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world

- **IT IS WRITTEN:** *There is therefore now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus*
- *If I confess my sins, He is faithful + just to forgive my sins + cleanse me from all unrighteousness*
- *Christ made us right with God; he made us pure + holy, + he freed us from sin.*

When you're confronted with sickness?

Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world

- **IT IS WRITTEN:** *These signs shall follow those who believe: In my name they shall lay hands on the sick + they shall recover*
- **Jesus said,** *Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.*

What should you do in conflict?

Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world

- **IT IS WRITTEN:** *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.*
- *And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.*
- *The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.*