

## “His Authority In Us”

By Mrs. Sojourner



Recently I ran across some verses that stuck out to me.

<sup>28</sup> When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, <sup>29</sup> because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law. Matt. 7:28-29 NIV

Jesus spoke as someone with authority. Well, the Word clearly tells us that he has all authority:

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.** <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matt. 28:18-20 NIV (emphasis added)

Hmm. Now didn't Jesus say somewhere that we Believers are going to do even greater things than he? Oh yes:

<sup>12</sup> I tell you the truth, anyone

Notes:

[a]

who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. <sup>14</sup> You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. John 14:12-14 NIV

So since Jesus has all authority, and he has given us specific instructions to carry out, and told us that he'll be with us, AND since he's made it clear that we Believers will do greater things, can we not conclude that he has given us authority. He's given us the authority to carry and use his name and to carry out the tasks we are called to do. Next time any of us wonder, "who am I to do such things?" Remember we are his righteousness and carry his authority.

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# Sojourning

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...with The Sojourner

## “The Renewed Mind” (Teaching Sketch)

Ephesians 4:17-24

Verse 23 of our scripture, in the King James Version of the Bible, cites the need for a *renewed mind*. The actual wording is:

<sup>23</sup> And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

“Spirit of your mind,”<sup>[1]</sup> is *mental disposition*. There is and must be a renovation of the mind! The mental disposition of most people when they are first Believers is uncertainty in the functioning in their newly found faith. This is NOT to say they are uncertain in their faith. They are new arrivals in The Kingdom of God fully vested in the blessing bestowed through Christ in The Kingdom. The new believer is, however, unfamiliar with how to access, receive, and function in and with all that has been bestowed on them.

### Changing Our Minds

The changing of our minds can, especially when thoughts and attitudes are bedrock and



foundational to our old self and way of thinking, be very labor intensive. It can be much like renovating a construction of concrete by using a jackhammer to remove the old, to haul off the rubble, so there is a place for the new. Not-to-mention this process can really shake things up!

Notes:

[1]  
Eph. 4:23  
KJV

[2]  
*A habit is an over learned behavior.*

### Overcoming Spiritual Apathy

Verse 19 talks of people who do not know Christ, as having, as the Amplified Version puts it, *spiritual apathy*. When a person first believes in Jesus Christ their spirit is set free, their soul (mind) is starting a renewal process, and their flesh (body) is still in this world with the body's wants and demands.

It may very well be that the habit<sup>[2]</sup> pattern of a person may have been 1.) The body wants, 2.) the mind says, “Why not!” and 3.) the spirit said, “Who cares.”

This is where the spiritual

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## Scripture: Ephesians 4:17-24 (NIV)

(NIV used to allow English speakers around the world equal understanding of the words used)

<sup>17</sup>So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. <sup>18</sup>They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. <sup>19</sup>Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.

<sup>20</sup>You, however, did not come to know Christ that way.

<sup>21</sup>Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. <sup>22</sup>You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; <sup>23</sup>to be made new<sup>[1]</sup> in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup>and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

[1]

G-365 ananeo—to renovate, i.e. reform :- renew.

—Strong's Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

**Note**  
**s:**

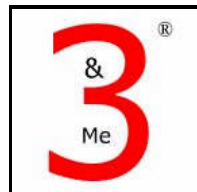
[a]

**Just so you'll know:**

**Our service is informal.** We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
  - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship**
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during “Praise & Worship” (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
  - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**



## “The Renewed Mind” (Teaching Sketch)

Ephesians 4:17-24

jackhammer is needed to break up the old fleshly line of thinking which once controlled the mind and the spirit of a person. The old way of functioning was from the bottom up rather than the new way of functioning which is from the top down.

Eph. 4:19 Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.

### Putting On The New Man

When someone believes in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior they become a “new creature” as Paul told the church at Corinth.

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature.<sup>[a]</sup> old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Putting on the new requires taking off the old.

### Tainted By Uncertainty

James tells us, “A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.”<sup>[b]</sup> Many new Believers become double-

**Notes:**

[a] Ktisis—original formation (properly the act; by implication the thing, literal or figurative) :- building, creation, creature, ordinance—Strong's Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

[b] James 1:8 KJV

[3] Proverbs 3:5-6

minded and are unstable in their new life because they have had little help in the form of a seasoned Believer to mentor them.

They rely on their own old understanding which was built on a faulty and false understanding from their old life without Christ.

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

[3]

### Recreated

When a person is a believer they are always putting on the “new self” which was in fact a restoration to the original mankind placed in the Garden East of Eden! Believers are created—reformed to be like God in Christ’s “righteousness and holiness” not the believer’s own perfection but the assumed—put on perfection given by Jesus Christ! If we try on our own we remain the old creature with a coat of man-made paint, denying the need for Christ!