

## Taking Authority Over Financial Storms I

It's our responsibility, as believers, to take control of the circumstances and situations in our lives through the spiritual authority that we have as a believer in and through Christ Jesus. One of those circumstances that can concern us the most is our finances. Debt, lack, and poverty can take a real toll on us. We must not allow these financial tests and trials to get the best of us. We have to rise up in the midst of the financial storms and rebuke them and take authority over them, just as Jesus did in the following scriptures.

Matthew 14:23-32<sup>23</sup> **And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone**<sup>24</sup> **But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.**<sup>25</sup> **And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.**<sup>26</sup> **And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.**<sup>27</sup> **But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, **Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.****<sup>28</sup> **And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.**<sup>29</sup> **And he said, **Come.**** **And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.**<sup>30</sup> **But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.**<sup>31</sup> **And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, **O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?****<sup>32</sup> **And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.**

Mark 4:35-41

<sup>35</sup> **And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.**<sup>36</sup> **And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.**<sup>37</sup> **And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.**<sup>38</sup> **And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?**<sup>39</sup> **And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, **Peace, be still.**** **And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.**<sup>40</sup> **And he said unto them, **Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?****<sup>41</sup> **And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?**

When we look at our present financial circumstances, we can begin to sink into doubt, fear, and unbelief. This can cause us to get over into panic and lose control, just as the disciples did aboard the boat and as Peter did when he began to sink in the water. Panic, confusion, and double-mindedness can be so overwhelming that we can totally give up on believing God and His promises. So many people today in the body of Christ have given up walking by faith and trusting God. It's easy to do when we begin to neglect our spiritual life through lack of prayer, not attending to the Word, and not doing whatever it takes to hear the Word of faith. Satan is the god of this world, and he comes to steal, kill, and destroy (2 Corinthians 4:3,4; John 10:10).

We need to use our authority to keep Satan from stealing, killing and destroying our finances. We hinder and limit God from helping us when we're not using our authority. We need to boldly command Satan to keep his hands off our finances and bind him in Jesus' Name. We need to aggressively use our authority and boldly speak to our bills and call them "*paid*". For Jesus said in Mark 11:23, **For verily**

**I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.**

Day and night, call your bills, "*paid*". Get on your knees and lift your hands to God and thank God that they are paid. Start a life of fasting. You can fast breakfast and lunch until dinnertime. Do this about five or six days a week. In the time that you're not eating, put that time into praying in tongues. Fasting and praying help us to receive wisdom and direction from God about what to do. If there's anything else that we need to do (other than what we're presently doing), the Lord will reveal it to us in prayer. Your flesh isn't going to want to do this, but it's important that you get a grip and control what is out of control, so you can focus totally on God and not on the storm.

To keep your eyes on God instead of your circumstance, continually read and quote Malachi 3:10-12 and 3 John 2, as well as any other scripture that God inspires you to use. Fast worldly things like the radio, television, newspapers, and magazines. Take all of the drastic measures that you need to while the financial storm is raging. This is because fasting and praying in tongues will build up your faith. *And God is going to work in your life according to your faith.* For Jesus said, Matthew 17:20, 21, <sup>20</sup>**Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.** <sup>21</sup>**Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.**

In Jude 20, we're instructed to do the following:

**But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,**

Continually claim that you have favor with God and man and with all the people that you owe money to. Remember, the devil is not playing games. His plan is to take you out financially. Just as when the storm came to Jesus and the disciples and Jesus took authority over it, somebody has to take authority over your storm. And, just as Satan wanted to drown them in the sea, he also wants to drown you in indebtedness. But he cannot do it as long as you withstand him. This is not a time to walk by sight, but walk by faith. Financial trials are just storms sent by the devil. Just as they came to Job's life and the apostle Paul's life, they also come to every believer. This is not the time to give up and quit, but this is this time to rise up and use your authority!

Trials are not fun. They come to keep us from going on for God. They bring discouragement, oppression, bewilderment and, most of all, destruction. But remember, Jesus is with us. Just as He said to the disciples, **'Be of good cheer, it is I; be not afraid,'** Jesus is saying the same thing to you today by the Holy Spirit. And just as God calmed the storm, He'll do the same for you in your financial matters right now. He just needs you to keep on standing and keep yourself built up spiritually, so that He can turn this situation around for your good. I look forward to sharing part TWO with you next week.

**Brother Rich**

**Remember, God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).**