



# **AUTHORITY**

**OF THE BELIEVER**

**IDENTITY - CALLING - ENEMY**

**KNOW WHERE YOU ARE SEATED**

**WALK INTENTIONALLY**

**ALL TO STAND, STAND**



**NEXT STEPS**

“Christianity does not begin with **walking; it begins with sitting.**”

“Most Christians **try to walk in order to be able to sit**

“For Christianity begins not with **a big DO, but with a big DONE.**

Thus Ephesians opens with God has “blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ” (1:3) and we are invited at the very outset to sit down and enjoy what God has done for us; not to set out to try and attain it for ourselves.”

“The Christian life from start to finish is based upon this principle of utter dependence upon the Lord Jesus ... **‘Sitting’ is an attitude of rest** ... we only advance in the Christian life as we learn first of all to sit down.”

**IDENTITY**



...and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and **seated Him** at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all principality all and power and might and dominion,

**EPHESIANS 1 v 19 - 23**



But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

**EPHESIANS 2 v 4 - 6**





**“Sitting is followed by walking.”**

“Sitting describes our position with Christ in the heavenlies.

**Walking is the practical outworking** of that heavenly position here on earth.”

“The all-important rule is not to ‘try’ but to ‘trust’, not to depend upon our own strength but upon his.”

“God does not command what he will not perform; but we must throw ourselves back on him for the performance.”

Too many Christians have all the doctrine but live lives that are a contradiction of it.

**CALLING**



I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to **walk** worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

**EPHESIANS 4 v 1 - 4**



“Christian experience begins with sitting and leads to walking, but it does not end with these.

Every Christian must learn also to stand.”

“We must know how to sit with Christ in heavenly places and we must know how to walk worthy of him down here, but we must also know how to stand before the enemy”

“The Greek word ‘stand’ is **HISTEMY** means ‘hold your ground.’ There is precious truth hidden in that command of God. It is not a command to invade foreign territory ... The word ‘stand’ implies that the ground IS ALREADY God’s, and therefore ours.”



# ADVERSARY



Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

**EPHESIANS 6 v 10 - 20**



Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your **waist with truth**, having put on the **breastplate of righteousness**, and having **shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace**; above all, taking the **shield of faith** with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

**EPHESIANS 6 v 10 - 20**



And take the **helmet of salvation**, and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

**EPHESIANS 6 v 10 - 20**



“In the first section of the letter we note the word “sit” (2:6), which is the key to that section and the secret of a true Christian experience. God has made us to sit with Christ in the heavenly places, and every Christian must begin his spiritual life from that place of rest. “

“In the second part we select the word “walk” (4:1) as expressive of our life in the world, which is its subject. We are challenged there to display in our Christian walk conduct that is in keeping with our high calling.”

“And finally, in the third part we find the key to our attitude towards the enemy contained in the one word, “stand” (6:11), expressive of our place of triumph at the end.”

# OVERVIEW

