



**FACE TO FACE: CONFRONTED BY JESUS
AUTHORITY | MATTHEW 9:1-8**
Pastor Mark Owens

And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic—"Rise, pick up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men. - Matthew 9:1-8

Jesus is the only authority that matters.

Biblical authority comes from the power and permission given by God.

Faith recognizes Jesus' authority.

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Jesus has authority over situations we cannot fix.

Sin submits to Jesus' authority

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Hidden agendas fall to Jesus' authority.

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Jesus sees:

- our hidden motives
- our silent doubts
- our secret fears
- our rebellion

And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. - Hebrews 4:13 (ESV)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. - Hebrews 4:13 (NIV)



For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. - James 3:16-17

Evidence reveals Jesus' authority.

"But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic— "Rise, pick up your bed and go home." - Matthew 9:6

When Jesus transforms a life:

- addictions will break
- bitterness gives way to forgiveness
- pride converts to humility
- selfishness becomes generosity
- hopelessness turns to joy
- bondage will lead to freedom

Worship is the right response to Jesus' authority.

And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men. - Matthew 9:7-8

The proper response to the authority of Jesus is worship.

Jesus is the only authority that matters.