

Notes: December 18, 2021

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tov
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: The Authority of God's Word

Last Shabbat I shared with you the power of God's Word. That only His Word, spoken or spoken and then written down can confirm itself and thus His actions are confirmed by what He says

Num 23:19 "God is not a human who lies or a mortal who changes his mind. When he says something, he will do it; when he makes a promise, he will fulfill it.

Where there is power, there is authority. One cannot exist without the other.

- Power - the ability to do something or act in a particular way
- Authority
 - the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience.
 - the right to act in a specified way, delegated from one person or organization to another.
 - official permission; sanction.

Just because one has the power to act does not mean they have been given the authority to act.

Throughout time many have acted solely on the power they wielded, yet did they have the authority to do so. One might even ask further if they perceived they had the authority who had given them that authority to begin with.

Just as an overview we could look at something like the Crusades.

The **Crusades** were a series of religious wars initiated, supported, and sometimes directed by the [Latin Church](#) in the [medieval period](#). The best known of these Crusades are those to the [Holy Land](#) in the period between 1095 and 1291 that were intended to recover [Jerusalem and its surrounding](#) area from [Islamic rule](#).

This is by no means a comprehensive presentation of what transpired over nearly 200 years, yet it will suffice for now.

The church wielded both the power as an influential presence and the perceived authority to reclaim Jerusalem from Islamic rule. Yet did they actually possess any authority? And when I say authority it isn't just any authority but God's Authority.

Their actions convey an authority, yet it was not delegated by Adonai, but perceived.

Was Jerusalem even theirs to redeem from Islamic rule?

When we understand authority there is only one who can truly extend it.

Adonai is the creator of the heavens and the earth. He is the creator of all that resides on the earth and He is the creator of us.

Yet, as His creation has He given us total authority? I would say He has given us authority, yet not blank check authority where we can do anything we want. There are limits on the authority we have been given.

Gen 1:28 God blessed them: God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea, the birds in the air and every living creature that crawls on the earth."

Fill the earth with your offspring and subdue the earth, that is to bring it under control. In other words be responsible for it. Yet we do not have the authority to change anything about it. We were created to bring forth life, yet the authority of that life still remains in the possession of Adonai. We are to live under that authority, yet in many ways we have established our own authorities, taken matters into our own hands and ultimately changed that which we had not authority to do.

We are back at the tower.

Gen 11:4 Then they said, "Come, let's build ourselves a city with a tower that has its top reaching up into heaven, so that we can make a name for ourselves and not be scattered all over the earth."

Acting upon our own authority, not the authority that has been given to us.

“Acting in the Name of God” is a premise that has been used throughout the centuries.

Where He offers His Name He has offered His authority. However, to merely act and yet not have the actual authority to do so. Let's go back to the Crusades and their origin...

In 1095, Pope [Urban II](#) proclaimed the First Crusade at the [Council of Clermont](#). He encouraged military support for [Byzantine emperor Alexios I](#) against the [Seljuk Turks](#) and called for an armed pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Across all social strata in western Europe, there was an enthusiastic popular response. The first Crusaders had a variety of motivations, including religious salvation, satisfying feudal obligations, opportunities for renown, and economic or political advantage.
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crusades>

Does this sound in any way like Adonai giving authority for the actions that would transpire?

Did it sound in any way like this?

Jos 1:2 "Moshe my servant is dead. So now, get up and cross over this Yarden, you and all the people, to the land I am giving to them, the people of Isra'el.

Jos 1:3 I am giving you every place you will step on with the sole of your foot, as I said to Moshe.

Adonai instructs Y'hoshua who has been given the authority by Adonai to take the place of Moshe as his successor and lead the nation that bears the Name of Adonai and thus His authority.

Num 6:27 "In this way they are to put my name on the people of Isra'el, so that I will bless them."

We see this authority being transferred...

Deu 34:8 The people of Isra'el mourned Moshe on the plains of Mo'av for thirty days; after this, the days of crying and mourning for Moshe ended.

Deu 34:9 Y'hoshua the son of Nun was full of the Spirit of wisdom, for Moshe had laid his hands on him, and the people of Isra'el heeded him and did what Adonai had ordered Moshe.

For whom the authority and instruction was given by Adonai to Moshe.

Exo 3:13 Moshe said to God, "Look, when I appear before the people of Isra'el and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you'; and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what am I to tell them?"

Exo 3:14 God said to Moshe, "Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh [*I am/will be what I am/will be*]," and added, "Here is what to say to the people of Isra'el: 'Ehyeh [*I Am or I Will Be*] has sent me to you.' "

Exo 3:15 God said further to Moshe, "Say this to the people of Isra'el: 'Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh (יהוה) [*Adonai*], the God of your fathers, the God of Avraham, the God of Yitz'chak and the God of Ya'akov, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever; this is how I am to be remembered generation after generation.

Exo 3:16 Go, gather the leaders of Isra'el together, and say to them, 'Adonai, the God of your fathers, the God of Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov, has appeared to me and said, "I have been paying close attention to you and have seen what is being done to you in Egypt;

The Prophets were given the authority by Adonai, just as Moshe and thus their words are His words. Just as Moshe spoke on behalf of Adonai, so to the Prophets spoke on behalf of Adonai. One such example I was reading this week...

Isa 2:1 This is the word that Yesha'yahu the son of Amotz saw concerning Y'hudah and Yerushalayim:

Isa 2:2 In the acharit-hayamim (the end of days) the mountain of Adonai's house will be established as the most important mountain. It will be regarded more highly than the other hills, and all the Goyim will stream there.

Isa 2:3 Many peoples will go and say, "Come, let's go up to the mountain of Adonai, to the house of the God of Ya'akov! He will teach us about his ways, and we will walk in his paths." For out of Tziyon will go forth Torah, the word of Adonai from Yerushalayim.

Isa 2:4 He will judge between the nations and arbitrate for many peoples. Then they will hammer their swords into plow-blades and their spears into pruning-knives; nations will not raise swords at each other, and they will no longer learn war.

Isa 2:5 Descendants of Ya'akov, come! Let's live in the light of Adonai!

These are not the words of Yesha'yahu, but the words given by Adonai for which the Prophet spoke.

Yesha'yahu was not speaking under His own authority. The Prophecy was not His but the one whose authority he was functioning by. We read of the Authority Adonai bestows upon Yesha'yahu...

Isa 6:8 Then I heard the voice of Adonai saying, "Whom should I send? Who will go for us?" I answered, "I'm here, send me!"

Isa 6:9 He said, "Go and tell this people: 'Yes, you hear, but you don't understand. You certainly see, but you don't get the point!'"

Thus, He has been given the authority to speak and speak he does. This prophecy speaks of what we have come to know as Yeshua's return or second coming. The acharit-hayamim, end of days Adonai will restore the nation of Yisrael and will impact the nations as well. There will be no more fighting, no more war. Peace will be established, yet not under the authority of the rulers of the world but under the authority of the world's creator.

How does this relate to us, Adonai's authority?

In each example I have shared, we have witnessed through His Word that only He can give His authority. Yet, in the case of our example of the Crusades, His authority is perceived, yet no evidence that the authority to take Yerushalayim back from Islamic rule was there.

What do we know?

We know that the land where Yerushalayim resides was given by Adonai to Yisrael.

Num 13:2 "Send men on your behalf to reconnoiter the land of Kena'an, which I am giving to the people of Isra'el. From each ancestral tribe send someone who is a leader in his tribe."

We know that they took possession of the land, led by Y'hoshua.

We know that they lived in the land and would do so as long as they followed the ways of Adonai as revealed to Moshe and thus transmitted to the people.

We know Adonai would remove them from the land and the land would lay desolate so long as they were absent.

Eze 33:27 Tell them that Adonai Elohim swears, 'As I live, those living in the ruins will fall by the sword, those in the countryside I will give to the wild animals to eat, and those in the fortresses and caves will die of the plague.

Eze 33:28 Moreover, I will utterly desolate the land; it will cease taking pride in its power; and the mountains of Isra'el will be so desolate that no one will pass through.'

2Ch 36:21 Thus was fulfilled the word of Adonai spoken by Yirmeyahu, "until the land has been paid her Shabbats"—for as long as it lay desolate, it kept Shabbat, until seventy years had passed.

Thus under who's authority did Pope Urban II act upon.

So long as the children of Isra'el were exiled from the land the land would remain desolate.

Deu 30:1 "When the time arrives that all these things have come upon you, both the blessing and the curse which I have presented to you; and you are there among the nations to which Adonai your God has driven you; then, at last, you will start thinking about what has happened to you;

Deu 30:2 and you will return to Adonai your God and pay attention to what he has said, which will be exactly

what I am ordering you to do today—you and your children, with all your heart and all your being.

Deu 30:3 At that point, Adonai your God will reverse your exile and show you mercy; he will return and gather you from all the peoples to which Adonai your God scattered you.

Deu 30:4 If one of yours was scattered to the far end of the sky, Adonai your God will gather you even from there; he will go there and get you.

Deu 30:5 Adonai your God will bring you back into the land your ancestors possessed, and you will possess it; he will make you prosper there, and you will become even more numerous than your ancestors.

Pope Urban II was not acting upon this authority because it is Adonai who is acting and for the intent purpose of bringing Israel back to the land. The eradication of those for whom the land does not belong to will be addressed in time. We have seen Israel gaining more and more control of the land that belongs to them and only for the reason that it is the authority of Adonai who has given it to them.

Thus, this authority, again I ask “How does it relate to us?”

Where does Adonai's authority reside today?

Simply stated, it resides with His Son. For Yeshua conveys...

Mat 28:18 Yeshua came and talked with them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

All authority, everything, has been given to Yeshua. We see this further through witnesses...

Mat 17:1 Six days later, Yeshua took Kefa, Ya`akov and his brother Yochanan and led them up a high mountain privately.

Mat 17:2 As they watched, he began to change form—his face shone like the sun, and his clothing became as white as light.

Mat 17:3 Then they looked and saw Moshe and Eliyahu speaking with him.

Mat 17:4 Kefa said to Yeshua, "It's good that we're here, Lord. I'll put up three shelters if you want—one for you, one for Moshe and one for Eliyahu."

Mat 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them; and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

Mat 17:6 When the talmidim heard this, they were so frightened that they fell face down on the ground.

A voice from heaven confirming Yeshua to be His son. Three witnesses were there to hear confirmation of who Yeshua is. They were instructed to listen to Him. Listen to what He says, and do what He does.

We witness the origin of these words spoken from above, a first time, thus Matthew 17:5 was further confirmation to this moment.

Luk 3:21 While all the people were being immersed, Yeshua too was immersed. As he was praying, heaven was opened;

Luk 3:22 the Ruach HaKodesh came down on him in physical form like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, whom I love; I am well pleased with you."

As there were witnesses present as well.

Luk 3:7 Therefore, Yochanan said to the crowds who came out to be immersed by him, "You snakes! Who warned you to escape the coming punishment?"

Crowds of people were present when Yeshua was immersed and received the Power of Adonai, the Ruach Ha Kodesh.

Where there is power, there is authority.

The perception of the people when Yeshua would begin to teach was not lost on them. During His sermon on the mount, Yeshua conveyed many truths as it related to Torah for which the people were astounded.

Luk 4:36 They were all astounded and said to one another, "What kind of teaching is this? Why, he gives orders with power and authority to the unclean spirits, and they come out!"

He speaks with power and authority.

Yeshua has received all the authority of the Father because He and the father are one, and the same...

Joh 14:6 Yeshua said, "I AM the Way—and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through me.

Joh 14:10 Don't you believe that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me? What I am telling you, I am not saying on my own initiative; the Father living in me is doing his own works.

Joh 14:11 Trust me, that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me. But if you can't, then trust because of the works themselves.

And thus acknowledges what has been given to Him.

Joh 17:1 After Yeshua had said these things, he looked up toward heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that the Son may glorify you—

Joh 17:2 just as you gave him authority over all mankind, so that he might give eternal life to all those whom you have given him.

And in acknowledging it, He has received it and thus embraced it. Thus as the ones who are following Him, listening to His teachings and applying them to our lives, He is authorizing us based on the authority given to Him...

Luk 10:19 Remember, I have given you authority; so you can trample down snakes and scorpions, indeed, all the Enemy's forces; and you will remain completely unharmed.

He further conveys to us...

Mat 28:19 Therefore, go and make people from all nations into talmidim, immersing them into the reality of the Father, the Son and the Ruach HaKodesh,

Mat 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember! I will be with you always, yes, even until the end of the age."

Thus we have been given the authority to speak in His Name, His Authority to...

- Be His light – to the Jew first and also to the nations

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the Good News, since it is God's powerful means of bringing salvation to everyone who keeps on trusting, to the Jew especially, but equally to the Gentile.

Rom 1:17 For in it is revealed how God makes people righteous in his sight; and from beginning to end it is through trust—as the Tanakh puts it, "But the person who is righteous will live his life by trust."

- Subdue the Adversary

For this, I share Yeshua's experience as our example...

Luk 4:3 The Adversary said to him, "If you are the Son of God, order this stone to become bread."

Luk 4:4 Yeshua answered him, "The Tanakh says, 'Man does not live on bread alone.' "

Luk 4:5 The Adversary took him up, showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world,

Luk 4:6 and said to him, "I will give you all this power and glory. It has been handed over to me, and I can give it to whomever I choose.

Luk 4:7 So if you will worship me, it will all be yours."

Luk 4:8 Yeshua answered him, "The Tanakh says, 'Worship Adonai your God and serve him only.' "

Luk 4:9 Then he took him to Yerushalayim, set him on the highest point of the Temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, jump from here!

Luk 4:10 For the Tanakh says, 'He will order his angels to be responsible for you and to protect you.

Luk 4:11 They will support you with their hands, so that you will not hurt your feet on the stones.' "

Luk 4:12 Yeshua answered him, "It also says, 'Do not put Adonai your God to the test.' "

Luk 4:13 When the Adversary had ended all his testings, he let him alone until an opportune time.

We have authority over the Adversary. His power has no power over us. His authority is not greater than ours.

As I conclude with this from 1 Kefa...

1Pe 5:1 Therefore, I urge the congregation leaders among you, as a fellow-leader and witness to the Messiah's sufferings, as well as a sharer in the glory to be revealed:

1Pe 5:2 shepherd the flock of God that is in your care, exercising oversight not out of constraint, but willingly, as God wants; and not out of a desire for dishonest gain, but with enthusiasm;

1Pe 5:3 also not as machers domineering over those in your care, but as people who become examples to the flock.

1Pe 5:4 Then, when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive glory as your unfading crown.

1Pe 5:5 Likewise, you who are less experienced, submit to leaders. Further, all of you should clothe yourselves in humility toward one another, because God opposes the arrogant, but to the humble he gives grace.

1Pe 5:6 Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that at the right time he may lift you up.

1Pe 5:7 Throw all your anxieties upon him, because he cares about you.

1Pe 5:8 Stay sober, stay alert! Your enemy, the Adversary, stalks about like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1Pe 5:9 Stand against him, firm in your trust, knowing that your brothers throughout the world are going through the same kinds of suffering.

1Pe 5:10 You will have to suffer only a little while; after that, God, who is full of grace, the one who called you to his eternal glory in union with the Messiah, will himself restore, establish and strengthen you and make you firm.

1Pe 5:11 To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Know the Authority you are under and live according to the power it provides.

Jud 1:24 Now, to the one who can keep you from falling and set you without defect and full of joy in the presence of his Sh'khinah—

Jud 1:25 to God alone, our Deliverer, through Yeshua the Messiah, our Lord—be glory, majesty, power and authority before all time, now and forever. Amen.