Exploring our authority in Christ, answering:

- Is our authority given to us or do we need to mature into it? Answer to both is YES, Galatians 3:23-26.
- What are the authorities that we might have, what do the scriptures say?

<u>Authority over the earth and what's on the earth:</u>

For the earnest expectation of the creature waits for the manifestation of the sons of God, Romans 8:19.

Whereby the authority that we have in Christ Jesus may not be fully defined in scripture, it must become a personal discovery or revelation for everyone. We see this when Jesus sent out the seventy disciples in and they came back telling Jesus of their new found authority over unclean spirits, Luke 10:17.

We first must consider that we are made in God's own image and likeness, Genesis 1:26; Realizing that God / Jesus created all things seen and unseen, by speaking them forth, and God has also given mankind the ability to speak His Word. For at creation God gave mankind dominion over the earth, telling him to be fruitful, multiply, and replenish the earth, and giving him the responsibility to subdue the earth, Genesis 1:28, for God has given the earth to the sons of men, Psalm 115:16.

The word "subdue," is Strong's 3533, [*kaw-bash*] meaning: to subdue, keep under, bring into subjection. Here, I believe that we need to bring into subjection the principalities, power and the rulers of the of this world. This is not only applies to spiritual forces but also those who give themselves over to those forces.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*, *Ephesians 6:12*.

Thus, God expects mankind to govern the earth, according to His Word as we see in the Lord;s prayer.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven, Matthew 6:10.

<u>Authority to use God's Word, seen in the bible:</u>

In the account of the Centurion asking Jesus to heal his servant in, Matthew 8:5-13 & Luke 7:1-10. We see two principles in operating in authority. In both accounts the Centurion:

Humbled himself before Jesus saying, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof, just speak the Word and my servant will be healed, *(for he had faith in Jesus authority)*.
Saying and acknowledging to Jesus that he was <u>also</u> a man under authority.

To walk in authority, we need to humble ourselves and realize that we are operating under God's authority and not ours. Jesus operated in His earthly ministry as the Son of Man, He came to earth as a Man, Philippians 2:6-8. He was baptized with the Holy Spirit, Luke 1:32, anointed by God, Acts 10:38. Jesus knew that the authority that He walk in and commanded came from the Father, for He said;

Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do: for what things soever He does, these also does the Son likewise, John 5:19.

Jesus also gave His twelve disciples power and authority over devils, and as we see in the next scripture this authority also applies to every believer

Then He called His twelve disciples together, and gave them power and **authority** over all devils, and to cure diseases, Luke 9:1.

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you, Luke 10:19.

This same authority that Jesus walked in can also be ours, if we seek the Lord with our whole heart, walk in obedience and in the light, as He is in the light, and step out in boldness.

However, if we do not use our authority to either subdue the earth or to command God's powerful Word. The darkness in the world and its evil and corruption will only increase, likewise if we fail to speak God's powerful Word, we will do without the blessings that would come from it. For, God has given mankind dominion over the earth, Genesis 1:28, and He has given the earth to the sons of men, Psalm 115:16. Therefore, God will allow whatever mankind allows, as we also see this principle in the scripture below.

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven, Matthew 18:18.

Scriptures on authority

When the righteous are in <u>authority</u>, the people rejoice: but when the wicked bear rule, the people mourn, **Proverbs 29:2**

For He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes, Matthew 7:29.

For I am a man under <u>authority</u>, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goes; and to another, Come, and he come; and to my servant, Do this, and he does *it*, Matthew 8:9.

And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine *is* this? for with <u>authority</u> commandeth He even the unclean spirits, and they do obey Him, Mark 1:27.

For the Son of Man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave <u>authority</u> to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch, Mark 13:34.

Then He called His twelve disciples together, and gave them power and <u>authority</u> over all devils, and to cure diseases, Luke 9:1.

Behold, I give unto you <u>power</u> to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Luke 10:19.

And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou <u>authority</u> over ten cities, Luke19:17.

For though I should boast somewhat more of our <u>authority</u>, which the Lord has given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed: 2nd Corinthians 10:8.

