

## **Excerpt from Chapter One: *The Authority in Your Words***

... We naturally speak things into the atmosphere without realizing the power behind our words. In our relationships with family, friends, associates, and even in our relationship with God, we fail to remember that there is life and death in the power of the tongue.<sup>1</sup>

In examining one of Adam's first responsibilities in the Garden, we discover the authority that God entrusted to Adam by allowing him to name the animals after God created them. "...and [God] brought them unto Adam *to see* what he would call them." It appears that God tested Adam's use of this entrusted authority. It further appears that God approved Adam's declarations, "...whatsoever Adam called every living creature that was the name thereof." This passage reveals God's delegation of authority to man to speak identity into the life of God's creations. It is the first representation of man speaking into the life of another being; giving it identity backed by the approval of God. This great authority is an awesome responsibility God has delegated to man.

In the life of Christ, referred to as the second Adam, we see the same authority in His words, which were also backed by the Father's approval.<sup>2</sup> In every instance, we see the life giving power that Jesus spoke into the lives of people by His words. He spoke things into existence. He changed names. He exercised a powerful anointing in His speech. As well as having the power to *speak* life, He also exhibited the same power and authority to speak death as found in the Scriptural account where He cursed the fig tree.<sup>3</sup> The Father in heaven supports even the curse spoken by Christ. As revealed in the life of Adam, man has been given the same power; however, the due to ignorance of the power and authority in our words, they are being misused in ways which result in more curses than blessings –more death than life.

It is time to ask yourself, "what am I doing with the awesome authority and power attached to my words?" "Am I using the authority God delegated to me to speak identity and life responsibly, or am I speaking death to situations, circumstances, and perhaps people in my life?" It is time to consider what you are or are not speaking into your life and your spirit; or perhaps the lives of your spouse, your family, your friends and your enemies.<sup>4</sup>

After Adam named the animals, there are no further instances where Adam asserts this delegated authority prior to the fall. After naming the woman, he never spoke anything else to her that was significant enough to be recorded in the Scriptures. Adam's only other recorded

words regarding the woman are those blaming her for his troubles with God after the events of the fall. After their sin, he immediately began to speak words of blame and accusation, which are a curse. These accusations are characteristic of Satan, the accuser of the brethren.<sup>5</sup> Adam speaks out of his fear, shame, and embarrassment. In our study of the Scriptures, we must also learn from those things that are conspicuously absent, particularly where it results in God's displeasure to the degree of imposing His judgment and penalty. Although Adam had the delegated power and authority to speak life and blessings to his helper, Eve, the Scriptures are void of such communications regarding her. In most instances, unlike the first Adam and Jesus Christ, the second Adam, whose words were supported by the Father and resulted in His approved actions, we speak words that are not approved or backed by the Father. We fail to realize that our words still have a life changing authority attached because of God's original delegation of that responsibility.<sup>6</sup> Because of the significance of this responsibility, it cannot be stressed enough, our words have the power to bring life or death to people and situations.<sup>7</sup> Due to ignorance of this principle, death is spoken in and to the life of many people and situations, perhaps even those closely involved in our lives. We must begin to walk in wisdom concerning this principle. We must develop relationship through communication with the Father whereby we are guaranteed His approval on every account and in every situation.<sup>8</sup> Many times, to speak or not to speak should be the question we ask ourselves.

As referenced previously concerning the noticeable lack of communication between Adam and Eve, it was either non-existent or it had little or no significance. This is often a problem which exist in many marriages and other relationships, and unfortunately, in too many ministries. As Christians, we must reverse this cycle, and the lack of productivity that results, in the body of Christ as well as the world. As we go deeper into understanding man's delegated responsibility to speak life-giving words, we must examine our interactions and relationships with others in light of those of the first Adam and the second Adam, Christ Jesus.<sup>9</sup>

First, let's begin with Adam. As we study the extent of Adam's communications, we see that there are different levels of communication and they are based on the type of interaction or relationship and its purpose. For instance, when Adam spoke to name a fish that was its name and when he spoke to name a bird that was its name. That was the extent of his communication concerning such. These creatures, not being equal to him, required nothing more in the way of communication. His responsibility was fulfilled. However, when God gave him the Woman, who

was equal to him and, like him, was created in the image of God, another level of communication was required. The woman was a part of Adam, made suitable (or comparable) to him and fashioned as a helper for him.<sup>10</sup> This was to be a relationship that required a level of communication that would necessitate continual and intense life giving speech for the success of God's human team. That is what God created Adam and his helper, Eve, to be – a team. Had Adam understood his responsibility for a higher level of communication with the woman and maintained such for relationship building, the serpent's enticements would have been ineffective and the loopholes into her soul would have been nonexistent. The opportunity for the serpent to communicate with her as freely may have been impossible. The woman would have been so fulfilled by the words of Adam and all that God revealed to him, that deception and disobedience would have had no place and she would not have been led astray by her own desires, emotions, and aspirations.<sup>11</sup>

Adam was deficient in the fulfillment of his responsibility to maintain the level of communication required for their success. As the Scripture records, and the state of humanity reveals, Adam's deficiency in the fulfillment of this responsibility resulted in doubt, deception, diversion, disobedience, and ultimately defeat and death – the death of God's original destiny for their lives. This same deficiency is still perpetuated today and the results are the same. Modern day Adams are not fulfilling their delegated responsibility for calling forth the destiny of their helpers – wives, daughters, and all of those to whom God has given them the authority to speak life changing words. Again, the questions to you are: What are you doing with your authority to speak life? What life giving words have you withheld from those to whom you are responsible?

We have been taught that no communication is better than bad communication, which is not always true. The lack of communication can be just as detrimental as seen in the life of Adam. This is causing a slow death to our families, relationships, and even some ministries. The lack of communication has caused many men and women to be misguided and to continually walk in error. This should not be. Because of the second Adam, the person of Christ Jesus, transformation is available and a way was made out of this dark, unproductive position. First, we must begin to rise up and take responsibility for our actions or the lack of appropriate actions.

Secondly, we must repent. This requires turning away from old things, and allow the power of the Holy Spirit to transform and renew our minds to that of the second Adam, who is

Jesus, the Christ.<sup>12</sup> Man of God, the challenge to you is to recognize the awesome authority attached to your words and use them for the glory of God in all of your relationships

By the authority God has given to me, I use these written words to call you into the place where you will begin to speak the life giving words of encouragement, wisdom, love and correction in your home, your workplace, your church, and every encounter that you have with others. It is my prayer that you take authority over the enemies of your soul – the world, the flesh, and the devil, and that you will call forth the things of God for your life. I pray that you will understand that the blessings and promises of God for your life are already established in Heaven but you must operate in your authority and loose them on earth. I also pray that you will seek the way of Christ, the second Adam, who came as the ransom that set us free from the penalty of the sin of the first Adam.

As a man of God, you have been given dominion over the earth and ordained to rule over your wife and families. Rule is defined by Miriam Webster in verb state as to *exert control, direction, or influence on or over*. In Vine's Expository of Old and New Testament Words it is translated as the greek verb *proistemi*, which means *to stand before, to lead, to attend to, and to guide*. This is an awesome responsibility that can be fulfilled with much prayer.

Your wife needs you. Your sons and daughters need you. Your mother and father need you. The world needs you. God desires to use you to fulfill His purposes in this earth. As we journey back to the garden, we will find it to be an anointed place of revelation, truth, and fulfillment where you will learn to operate fully in the will of God. The Father has given you the ability, the power, and the authority to speak into the lives and situations of so many. He has anointed and appointed you to do great things. I challenge you to respond to His call...