



Harvest Warriors

NEWSLETTER



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Warring to Harvest

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Our Position In Christ

Recently the Lord has brought me, Rebecca, into a deeper understanding of our position in Christ. The scripture in Ephesians 2 is so often quoted, but so very little understood in a practical day-to-day application in our lives.

“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 2:4-6

I have read whole books on this one important phrase “*and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,*” without the author ever actually giving a good workable definition of what this means in our everyday life.

First, WHERE are “*the heavenly places?*” Ephesians tells us:

“ . . . 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 and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” Ephesians 2:20-23

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’” Matthew 28:18

The WHERE, is: “*above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.*” Astonishing isn’t it? You can’t get any higher than that! This is, actually, the basis for our authority over Satan and his kingdom in the name of Jesus. Satan himself is included in the “*all principality and power and might and dominion.*”

The next question is HOW do we come to be in such a position? There is an incredible scripture, which is little understood in the gospel of John, chapter 17. We find it in the prayer that Jesus prayed just before His

crucifixion. First Jesus prays for His disciples, then He adds:

“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;” John 17:20

Who is Jesus praying for here? You and me! We are the ones who have believed in Jesus Christ through the words of the disciples, which have been recorded for us in the Bible. *Therefore the following verses after this statement are Jesus praying directly for us.*

“ . . . that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them . . .” John 17:21-22

This is an astonishing statement. Jesus actually says that the glory God the Father has given to Him, He is also giving to us! Wow! So, exactly what does the word *glory* mean? Yes, it means *splendor, radiance, majesty, etc.* BUT, the word *glory* also means *authority*. Jesus was saying that He was giving His *authority* to us. You see, being seated in *the heavenly places* is a legal position of *authority*. It is not simply a physical position. We think of Jesus as being physically in heaven seated at the right hand of God the Father, which He is, but He also holds a position of *authority*. *His authority is a legal position*. Just as a police officer holds a position of legal authority to enforce the law over you and me, Jesus holds a legal position of authority over everything. There is no physical power in the little piece of metal that makes up the police officer’s badge. The badge shows us *his legal position*. We know that if we disobey an order by a police officer, he has the authority to call in the whole power of the government behind him to force us to obey – SWAT teams, etc. Those guys carry big guns! When Jesus commands something, He has the whole, completely unlimited, power of the God-head behind Him. It’s hard for us to conceive of something unlimited, but there is absolutely no limit to God’s power. He had enough power to create this whole physical universe with plenty left over besides.

Our position of being “*seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus*” is a legal position, not a physical one. We are not physically up in heaven with Jesus, we can certainly see that. The problem is we cannot “see” a legal position with our physical eyes, therefore we tend

to forget about it or not understand it. Let me see if I can illustrate this for you. Those of you who are married are in the physical position of being married, but you are also in a legal position of being married. When you and your spouse are in the same physical place at the same time, then your position is physical. But when you have to go one direction, and your spouse has to go a different direction, the two of you become separated physically. When you can no longer see, feel, or hear your spouse, does that mean that you are no longer married? Of course not! That’s because of your legal position. You are legally married. A physical distance does not put an end to your legal position of marriage. That’s how our legal position is in Christ. *We are not physically in the presence of Jesus right now, but we*

ARE in a legal position of being in a very special relationship with Jesus. He is in a legal position of great authority, and so are we also in that same position with Him – legally, not physically. Therefore, His authority is our authority. Our policeman’s badge, so to speak, is the name of Jesus. When we use the name of Jesus, all the power of the God-head backs us up! I’d rather have that than a thousand SWAT teams!

The Psalmist marveled at this very concept when he wrote:

**“When I consider Your heavens,
the work of Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which
You have ordained,
What is man that You are
Mindful of him,
And the son of man that You visit him?
For You have made him a little
Lower than the angels,
And You have crowned him with
glory and honor.
You have made him to have
Dominion over the works of Your hands;
You have put all things under his feet,
All sheep and oxen –
Even the beasts of the field,
The birds of the air,
And the fish of the sea
That pass through the paths of the seas.
O Lord, our Lord,
How excellent is Your name in all the earth!” Psalm
8:3-9**

Jesus actually says that the glory God the Father has given to Him, He is also giving to us!

Once again, the “glory” God has given to mankind is a position of authority. God has put the creation in a position of legal subordination to us!

The next question is, HOW do we enter fully into this position? Well, actually there is nothing we can do about that; Jesus and God the Father have already done it for us. God, through a purely supernatural act, has given us this legal position of authority. Jesus told us that we could access this authority through the use of His name. Just as a police officer must wear his badge or show his badge before he uses his legal authority to arrest someone, so we must wear or show our “badge” by using the name of Jesus. This requires two things:

1. Position
2. Faith

First, we MUST be in a position of being a true servant of Jesus Christ. This means that we must make a free-will decision to make Jesus Christ our God and our Savior. Once we pray and tell Jesus this, then immediately we are put under the covering of His blood and our position is changed. Before we did this, we were in a position of being a sinner separated from God, immediately afterwards, we become a son of God by adoption. All sons of God, that is Christians, are immediately placed into the legal position of *being seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.* However, I believe your ability to use that authority grows as you grow in the Lord. Just the same as a rookie policeman does not have the same authority as a Chief of Police. But, even the rookie has a basic amount of legal authority. So does every new Christian the very second after he accepts Jesus.

Secondly, HOW do you actually use this authority? By faith! Faith is the key to everything. O.K., so what is faith, and how do we get it? Simple. Faith is a choice! It’s up to you, it’s your decision. *Faith is choosing to accept as fact, that God always performs His Word.*

Let me illustrate it this way. You live your whole life based on faith in gravity. That’s why you don’t step off the top of a ten-story building! At some point in your life you decide to accept the fact that gravity exists. You cannot see gravity, you cannot feel it, but you accept the fact that gravity IS. This is a free-will decision you have made. We must protect very young

children because they have not yet made this decision. They do not have faith in gravity.

Do you need more faith? What you really need is a stronger will. The will to decide what is fact and what is not. The more time you spend reading and studying God’s word and hearing it, the stronger your decisions will become in God’s kingdom. (Romans 10:17) The more you put sin out of your life, the more freely the Holy Spirit can flow in your life, and the more faith you will have. *In short, you must accept as fact, that you are right now in the legal position of being seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.*

Once you come to this understanding your life, and especially your prayers, will dramatically change! Ask

the Holy Spirit to teach you all that this fact means in your day-to-day life. Here is an example that the Lord used in my own life to drive home this fact to me.

For years I have known and practiced the authority I have in the name of Jesus over Satan’s kingdom. But I have not been as diligent in using this authority in other areas of my life, simply I guess, because I did not understand it. Daniel and I have a young Russian Blue cat named Jo-

seph. He is a year and a half old now and has boundless energy! We let our cats run outside all day, here on the ranch. There are no roads near-by so we don’t have to worry about them getting hit by a car. However, we always bring them in before nightfall each day because the coyotes tend to come down out of the mountains into the valley after dark. Unfortunately coyotes like to eat cats! So it is for their own protection that we bring them inside. However, Joseph does not want to come in at night. He wants to run all day AND all night. He will easily go a full 24 hours without even stopping to eat!

Joseph happens to be one of Daniel’s special cats. So when Joseph stays out all night, Daniel is up all night worrying and pacing and outside hunting for him, and thusly I am awake all night as well! It is impossible to keep Joseph cooped up in the house while we let the other cats run. A few weeks ago, late in the evening

***Faith is
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we were once again faced with the problem of Joseph not showing up to come in when he should. It was fast getting dark, and we were worried. I went outside to pray about the matter. I said, "Please Father, in the name of Jesus I am desperately asking You to send the angels to bring Joseph home!" Immediately the Lord answered me very clearly and said, "I created that cat with a free will. He doesn't want to come home." I thought about that for a moment, and suddenly the Holy Spirit began to show me these scriptures I have just written about. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit I prayed, "Yes Lord, so you have, **but I** am seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. I am in a position of dominion over your creation, and that includes Joseph. Therefore, in the name of Jesus, I am asking You to go against his free will and bring him home whether he wants to come or not!" I then sat down on the front porch to wait and see what would happen. Within ten minutes, Joseph showed up at the front door, all fluffed up and hissing and looking behind him. I could see nothing, but I have no doubt at all he was seeing the angel who brought him home! He was not pleased, but I had a very good night's sleep that night, Praise the Lord! Ever since then I have prayed the same way about Joseph, and every time the Lord brings him home. He is finally getting so that he comes in on his own most of the time.

"I do only those things which I see My Father in heaven doing."

Really think about it! This concept will change your prayer life! How many of our prayers don't get answered because we are not using our God-given authority? Clearly God wants to work here on earth through His church. But our lack of prayers, plus our lack of using the authority given to us hinders much of this work from ever being accomplished. It is the Holy Spirit who works in us to show us how to pray. I suggest you ask the Holy Spirit to teach you the use of this concept in your daily prayers. But **DO** remember this. Jesus set us the example when He said, "I do only those things which I see My Father in heaven doing." In other words, we will use our God-given authority **ONLY** when and how the Lord leads us to use it. God will not honor us if we attempt to use it only for our own desires. That's why James wrote:

"... Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures." James 4:2-3

What is it that you do not have because you have not asked for it, and asked for it in the right way, using your God-given authority? How much of God's work in His kingdom is not accomplished because we don't pave the way by praying for it? I pray earnestly that the Holy Spirit will show all of us the answers to these questions.

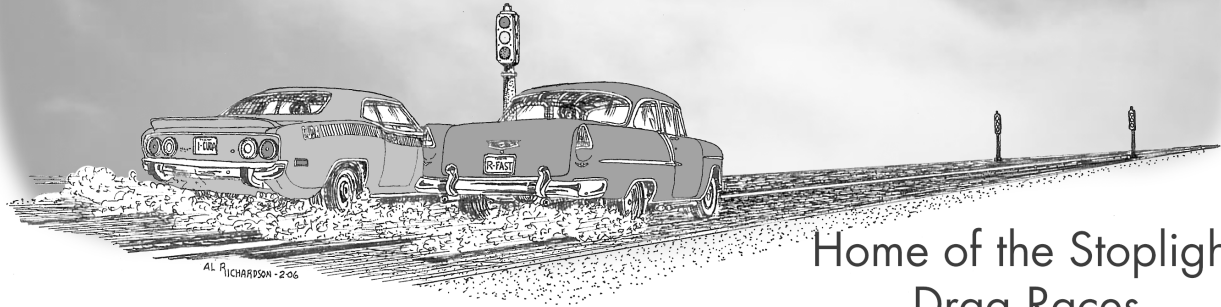
To be continued next newsletter

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. ~Isaiah 40:31



TWO-LANE BLACKTOP®

DRAGSTRIP



Home of the Stoplight
Drag Races

We want to take the time to bring you up to date on all that is happening with our drag strip. We want to thank all of you who have helped us financially, with encouragement, and with prayers. We cannot do this alone. This lesson was vividly reinforced into my (Daniel) mind through the recent Walt Disney movie *Cars*. The movie makes the point that no man can do



A view of the drag strip. We'll be putting down black top in two weeks.

anything by himself. It takes a complete body to make up a kingdom just as it takes a complete crew to enable a racecar to race, and the driver to come into victory lane. Our goal is to make each young person racing at Two-Lane Blacktop a winner, bringing them into Victory Lane, by bringing him or her to Jesus Christ! A ministry such as ours cannot reach very many souls by ourselves. We have to have others help us! You are those people. We earnestly ask that you continue with your prayers, and your financial support. This is a struggle in the spiritual realm as well as the physi-

cal.

We had a good start on the construction of the drag strip when a handful of people were motivated by Satan's kingdom to come against us. They called the EPA down on us. To our horror, the EPA told us that we could not finish the drag strip because an obscure law had been passed in 1997 by the Arkansas legislature outlawing the construction of any future racing facilities. We were given a portion of that law in writing. Everything came to a screeching halt! We had already put most all of our personal savings into the project, and were reeling from the shock of the news.

For two weeks I, Rebecca, took the whole matter into God's courtroom every morning and every evening. Finally at the end of those two weeks, the Lord spoke to me very clearly one evening telling me that He had rendered judgment in our favor and that the project would go through. I was in Florida ministering at the time. That very same night, God woke Daniel up in the middle of the night and told him to get up, go up to our office and get onto the Internet and research the law for himself. As he did so, he found that we had been given only a portion of the law, and not the whole law. The first sentence of the whole law states that "No racing facility shall be built for any cars or trucks which have been modified for racing . . ." There was the key! From the very beginning, we have advertised that ONLY street legal cars and trucks could be raced on our track. This is because we want the average teenager to be able to come race. They don't have the money to race against expensively modified racecars!

We found a wonderful Christian attorney in Little Rock who had already dealt with this very law. He reviewed everything and felt also that since we were exempt from the very first clause of the law, we were then exempt from the whole law. The EPA agreed with us, so we were free to resume construction of the track. How-



The road to the concession stand. The concession will be built under the large tree with an adjoining picnic area.

ever, by then, all the construction people had gone on to other jobs. Just because Satan looses, he doesn't role over and play dead! No, he keeps on fighting, and he has certainly done so in our case. Construction was held up a total of seven weeks. I took the matter back into God's courtroom, and many others helped us pray at this juncture. Finally we got everybody back a week ago and construction started again. Our projected opening date is now for Labor Day, September 4th.

Please let me share with you in a little more detail our plans for the track. We just ordered two six foot tall by three foot wide granite stones to sit at the entrance to the track. The stones will be shiny black with white lettering. The Ten Commandments will be inscribed on the stones. Then there will be a third stone across the bottom on which will be inscribed "Jesus Christ is Lord!" We plan to plant flaming red barberry bushes all around and behind the stones. These bushes maintain brilliant red leaves all year round. There are many racetracks as well as other businesses owned and run by Christians, but not many have a total Christian theme, sharing the gospel at every event. Most tracks have a chaplain, and may even have prayer, but they don't present the gospel.

"Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding. So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests." Matthew 22:9-10

The Lord has shown us that we must reap in fields that are "white for the harvest." Some fields are not ready to harvest. A major problem in evangelism is finding something to attract the un-churched to a place where they can hear the gospel. Also many people cannot effectively reap because they have nothing in common with the "wheat" and thus have great difficulty talking with them. Recent surveys have shown that 78% and more, of the general population is enthused about racing and various forms of motor sports. The wonderful thing about this "field" is that it goes across all cultural lines. I, Rebecca was amazed recently while ministering in Puerto Rico to find that one of the pastors of the church was totally enthused about racing. In fact, he works in the area of television and is responsible for televising all the NASCAR races when they come to San Juan. Every where I travel, as I share about this project, I find that a large portion of the audience has been into drag racing at some point or other in their lives.



Looking down the length of the drag strip.

Every race day will open and close with prayer. Also, the first race of each day will carry with it a Christian theme and a little lesson. In addition, one Sunday afternoon of each month, (as we grow this will be more frequent), we plan to bring in a well known Christian brother or sister to speak for about 45 minutes to the youth, sharing their testimony and the gospel. An altar call will be given to give people an opportunity to accept Christ. Then we will ask that person to mingle with the crowd for the rest of the day, talking and sharing with people. The kids who come to listen to the testimony will be permitted to race free for the rest of the day. We are working to make contact with several well-known NASCAR and NHRA drivers, and one of the stunt men for the movie series *Too Fast and Too Furious*. There's not a kid anywhere who has not seen those films!

Most of you have heard and seen the TV series “The Dukes of Hazard.” What most of you do not know is that the series is based upon a true story. The original “Duke of Hazard” was a moonshine runner. He is now a Christian who travels and shares the gospel very effectively with the youth. We hope to be able to bring him to the track as well.

Each person entering into the track will receive a *Get Out of Hell Free Card* with the Romans Road on the back of it along with a salvation prayer.



Entrance to the drag strip.

This whole project is a huge step in faith for Daniel and I. To be honest, we are going very deep into dept to bring the drag strip to the point of opening. This may seem foolish to some, and I supposed it is in the eyes of man, as world events show that we are coming closer and closer to the end. However, the Lord has deeply ingrained in our hearts the scripture in Luke 19:

“Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately. Therefore He said: “A certain nobleman went into a far

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country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business till I come.’” Luke 19:11-13

We MUST do business until our Lord returns! We MUST be about kingdom business, and that is bringing souls to Christ! We believe with all our hearts that if we work diligently in God’s kingdom, that when the hard times come, God Himself will care and provide for us.

“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.” John 9:4

Let us all join together to work diligently in God’s kingdom while it is yet day. The time is short, brothers and sisters, and the matter is urgent. Souls are being lost every day. *It is our goal to bring as many souls as possible to Christ. Then they must be delivered and set free and trained in the Lord.* It is our prayer that Two-Lane Black Top Drag Strip will truly be a “highway to heaven” for the lost.

**“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord;
Make straight in the desert
A highway for our God.**

Isaiah 40:3

Love Offerings

We are a faith-supported ministry. That means, that whether the financial needs of this ministry are met or not depends on your hearts. We really need your support right now as we have taken a giant step in faith with this racetrack. It is taking every penny we have, and then some! Any help you can send to us will be so much appreciated. As your letters and checks come in, we lay hands on each one and pray fervently that our Lord will bless you in return.

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