

KNOWING



WHAT BELONGS TO US



Kenneth E. Hagin

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Chapter 1

BLESSED WITH ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who HATH blessed us with ALL spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

—Ephesians 1:3

Christians have been blessed with an inheritance in Christ. Everything that Jesus Christ bought and paid for at Calvary belongs to the Christian *now*. That includes "ALL spiritual blessings in Christ" (v. 3). Yet many Christians don't know that *all* spiritual blessings are already theirs; instead, by prayer and believing God they keep *trying to get what already belongs to them*.

Christians who are not appropriating what is theirs already by the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus are missing out on their full inheritance in Christ. Not only that, but if they keep praying for what already belongs to them—they are not walking in *faith* because they are not believing and appropriating God's provision for them. The Bible says it is impossible to please God without faith (Heb. 11:6).

You see, in His great grace and wisdom, our wonderful heavenly Father has already given the Church everything He knew we would need to make us richly endowed, strong for any battle or conquest against the enemy, and victorious over every circumstance. We know this because our Father God blessed the Church with *every* spiritual blessing in the heavenlies. By blessing us with all spiritual blessings, it was God's intent and purpose to enable us to be victorious over the enemy in every circumstance. Also, the Church must realize that God has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings there are; there aren't any more. "All" means *all!*

What does it mean to be blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies? "Every spiritual blessing" includes everything God did for the Body of Christ in Jesus' redemptive work at the

Cross. *Everything* God did in Christ belongs to the Church, the Body of Christ, and everything God did for us was intended to bless us and to enable us to carry out His plan on the earth.

Of course, one of the best ways to find out the spiritual blessings which belong to you is to go through the New Testament and find scriptures which tell you who you are in Christ 7

and what you possess in Christ. Mark every scripture which tells you who you are and what you have in Christ and then begin to confess them. This is one of the ways you begin to walk in the light of what you already possess in Christ. (For a more detailed study of this subject, see Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin's minibook, *In Him*.)

The New Birth Belongs to Us

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

When you are born again, the Bible says that you become a new creature in Christ. The "new creature" Paul is referring to is the inward man. In order to see this more clearly, let's go back to Second Corinthians 4:16 where Paul deals with the subject of the outward man and the inward man.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish [or decays], yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

Which man is born again—the inward man or the outward man? It is the inward man that is in Christ Jesus; therefore, it is the inward man that is made a new creature in Christ. Old things are passed away—in the inward man. All things have become new—in the inward man. That means the sin nature in our spirits has been done away with. It's gone. That man on the inside has become a new man in Christ and has a new nature—the nature of God. We have the nature of God in our inward man.

I remember years ago down in Texas a man said to me, "I couldn't live like you Christian folks do!" What this man was really saying was that he couldn't live the consecrated life of a born-again Christian because his nature was all wrong. He could hardly wait to get away from us so he could go get something to drink that he shouldn't be drinking and do other

things that were wrong.

But one day that fellow got born again and then his nature changed. After he was born again, he thought being a Christian was the greatest thing in the world! He said, "You know, I can't do those things I used to do because I just don't want to do them anymore! Those things are disgusting to me now. But isn't this Christian life wonderful!"

As Christians, we will always have the flesh to deal with and we will have to keep it under the dominion of our spirit—the man on the inside. Paul said, "I keep my body under" (1 Cor. 9:27). *You* have to crucify the flesh; that means you must keep the flesh under. God is not going to do it for you. Crucifying the flesh hurts, doesn't it? But *you* must present your body to God as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1,2).

Healing Belongs to Us

What else belongs to us because of our redemption in Christ? Healing is also ours because we have been blessed with "all spiritual blessings" in Christ. Let's look at Isaiah 53:4,5:
ISAIAH 53:4,5

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

In the original Hebrew, you'll find that the words "griefs" and "sorrows" in verse 4 are correctly translated, "Surely he hath borne our *sicknesses* or *diseases*, and carried our *pains*: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted."

This verse is taken from the Book of Isaiah and was written long before Calvary. It gives us a preview of the coming Messiah; it is looking into the future proclaiming Jesus' death and resurrection and it is looking forward to the time when Christ would come and purchase our salvation for us.

Then notice in First Peter 2:24, Peter was looking back to the Cross:

1 PETER 2:24

24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Isaiah was looking to the future when he prophesied about the coming Christ at Calvary—what was going to come to pass in the future.

Peter was not prophesying; he was looking back to Calvary and he was stating a fact about something that had *already* occurred.

1 PETER 2:24

24 . . . by whose stripes ye were healed.

Relative to healing, in Matthew 8:17, Matthew was quoting the Book of Isaiah. He quoted what the prophet Isaiah had said:

MATTHEW 8:17

17 ... Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

God laid our diseases—the cause of all sickness and disease—on Jesus. "... *by whose stripes ye WERE healed*" (1 Peter 2:24).

Over the years, I have met many good, Spirit-filled people who had been seeking healing for years. Many of these people have said to me, "I don't know why God won't heal me." To get their attention I've replied, "God is not going to heal you." "Oh? He's not?" "No," I said, "He's not *going to heal* you. You see, healing *has already been bought and paid for*. Healing belongs to you *now*."

Every single time I have been able to get a person to see this truth—to believe and receive what the Scriptures declare *already belongs to him in Christ*—that person has been healed.

Many times we think we believe what the Scriptures say. But, unfortunately, many times we don't really *believe* the Word of God at all! If we did, we would act on it! Often we are only mentally *assenting* to the Word; there is a vast difference. (More information on this subject can be obtained by reading Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin's books, *Right and Wrong Thinking*, *What Faith Is*, and *The Real Faith*.) Healing became an accomplished fact at the Cross of Calvary because the Scriptures say, "...*by whose stripes ye WERE healed*" (1 Peter 2:24).

Well, if *we* were healed, then I was healed. And if I *was* healed, then I *am* healed now. That's present tense! We just need to believe that, accept it, and walk in the light of it. Healing is part of the "all spiritual blessings" *we have already been blessed with* in Christ!

As I said, every time I've been able to get people to believe that healing is a present-tense reality, almost instantly, they were healed. I've seen this happen time and time again, even with people who were crippled and couldn't walk a step. I've also seen this happen in cases where doctors have said the person would never walk again. Every single time I could get these people to see that healing *already belonged to them*, they were healed. Many of these people had been praying and begging and crying to God to heal them for years. But, you see, they weren't in faith; they couldn't have been in faith because they were still trying *to get* what they already possessed in Christ all along.

Of course, when we're just baby Christians and we don't know any better, God will meet us where we are. When every single one of us was just a baby Christian—that is, when we were just in our early stages of spiritual development

—very often God met us where we were spiritually because we just didn't know any better. We were babies.

For example, I can remember when I prayed as a child, "Now I lay me down to sleep. I pray the Lord my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take." Did you ever pray that? Many of us prayed that way when we were children, but how many of us pray that way now? No, we've outgrown that.

The same thing is true spiritually. When we were first born again and we were just in a babyhood stage of development, God met us on that level because we didn't know any better.

Thank God for His mercy.

But if we as believers really understood our Covenant and the "all spiritual blessings" that have already been provided for us at the Cross, we would realize that the believer doesn't really need to ask God to heal him because "*surely He hath borne our sicknesses or diseases, and carried our pains*" (Isa. 53:4). Therefore, the believer just needs to know that healing belongs to him and to accept and receive what has already been purchased for Him through Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

Do you really believe God's Word? If you do then you really don't need to pray for something that already belongs to you, do you? Why should you if it's *yours!* If God has said in His Word that all spiritual blessings are yours in Christ, then you must learn to walk in the light of what belongs to you!

Chapter 2

APPROPRIATING THE BLESSINGS

I have had many opportunities to appropriate "all spiritual blessings" in my life.

For example, twice in my life it seemed that death had come and fastened itself upon me.

Both times I just started laughing. Now I don't mean I *felt* like laughing. There is such a thing as laughing in the Spirit when you're inspired to laugh by the Spirit of God. But I wasn't inspired to laugh; I just started laughing because I knew what God's Word promised me and I also knew that the devil is a liar.

One of these incidents occurred when I was holding a meeting in Pasadena, Texas. After one of the evening meetings, I had just gotten off to sleep, when I was awakened about 1:30 in the morning with severe heart pains. It seemed as if the incurable heart disease I'd had as a teenager had come back on me. When I was bedfast as a teenager, five different doctors told me there was nothing medical science could do for me, and they gave me up to die.

As I lay in bed that night with severe heart pain gripping me, the devil's thoughts came to me: "There's no use turning to medical science.

Doctors can't do anything for you anyway; they've already told you that. Now that incurable heart disease has come back on you and *you're going to die*. That's what's going to happen to you! This is one time you're not going to get your healing."

I pulled the covers up over my head and started laughing at the devil. I don't mean I felt like laughing, but I just started laughing anyway because the Word of God tells me that healing belongs to me; I am healed by Jesus' stripes and the devil is a liar. You see, dear friends, we appropriate what belongs to us *by faith*. Also, I knew it was the devil when I heard, "This is one time you're not going to get healed," because that's doubt and unbelief. It couldn't be God because it wasn't in line with the Bible. So I just started laughing.

Finally, I said, "I'm laughing at you, Mr. Devil, because you said I'm not *going* to get healed. Of course I'm not *going* to get healed! I don't expect *to get* healed. Do you know why?

Because I *am* healed. The Word of God says, '*By His stripes ye were healed*,' so I am healed now. If we *were* healed, then I *was* healed; therefore, I *am* healed now. So I'm not trying *to get* healed.

Why would I want *to get* healed? Jesus already *got* my healing;

He bought and paid for my healing at the Cross. Healing already belongs to me!"

You see, there's no use for me to try *to get* my healing. All I have to do is to believe God's Word and appropriate the healing that Jesus already obtained for me on the Cross. All I've got to do is *receive* what already belongs to me, and that includes healing. Learn to appropriate the "all spiritual blessings" you've already been blessed with! Learn to receive the fullness of your inheritance in Christ in this life!

Then I said to the devil, "So, Mr. Devil, you just pack up your bags and get out of here!" And I'll tell you, he scurried around and got everything that belonged to him—all the doubt and unbelief and all of his symptoms—and left!

Again and again when I've taught along this line, I've had folks tell me or write me that when they began to appropriate what already belonged to them, they were perfectly healed—even of incurable diseases. I didn't pray for them or lay hands on them; *they* just appropriated God's promises *for themselves*. In many cases, doctors had told them there was nothing medical science could do for them; there was no known cure for what they had. However, when they took God at His Word and acted as if healing was so, they were made well and strong. Many of these people were even raised up from their deathbed and they are still alive and healed today—all because they learned how to appropriate what already belonged to them in Christ.

God's plan of redemption—which includes healing—is really so simple. I think we complicate it a lot of times, but God is not the One who makes it hard. Many times folks make spiritual things complicated when they don't understand them, but that's not God. God made our redemption so simple that anyone could understand it.

Appropriate Your Righteousness in Him

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

God's great redemptive work includes everything God did for us in Christ from the time God made Jesus to be sin until Jesus ascended and sat down at the right hand of the majesty on High. Therefore, part of our redemption includes the fact that we have become the righteousness of God in Christ. That means we can approach God's throne boldly and obtain our petitions without fear or shame. We are not righteous in ourselves; but Christ has become our righteousness, and as long as we are in

Christ, God sees us as righteous.

I remember I was holding a meeting in one of the northern states, and there was a fellow in the congregation who was said to be the finest Christian in the church. In one of the services, I was teaching that we are the righteousness of God in Christ. After this particular session, this Christian man came up to me and said, "Brother Hagin, I don't understand what you're saying. I know I've been born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, and I sure am *trying* to be righteous."

I said, "I want to ask you a question. Are you a man or a woman?" "Why," he said, "I'm a man."

I said, "How did you get to be a man?" "I was born that way," he said. I said, "That's the way you get to be righteous. You're born that way."

He saw it. He got so excited, I thought he was going to go through the ceiling! He'd been working for years trying *to get* to be righteous, but when he saw that Jesus is his righteousness and that he was made the righteousness of God in Christ when he was born again, I thought he was going up right then! Jesus was his righteousness all along, but this man hadn't known what already belonged to him.

Chapter 3

DELIVERED FROM SATAN'S AUTHORITY

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom [In Christ] we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness [remission] of sins.

—Colossians 1:13,14

Thank God we've been translated out of the kingdom of darkness. One Bible translation says, "*The Father hath delivered us from the power of darkness... .*" Our bodies are going to be translated one of these days, but our spirits have already been translated.

EPHESIANS 2:1

1 And you hath he quickened [or made alive] , who were dead in trespasses and sins.

That's something that belongs to us now. We were dead in trespasses and sins, but when we're born again we are delivered from the power and the authority of darkness and we are translated into the Kingdom of God's dear Son. Christians

have been delivered from all of Satan's power and authority. We need to walk in the light of that. It's not that we're *going* to be delivered; we have *already* been delivered. We need to just accept that as a present reality and learn how to appropriate what already belongs to us.

Also, Christians should not be continually talking about the devil and what he is trying to do in their lives; they should be talking about what God has already provided for them in Christ.

Very often you'll hear Christians say, "I'm praying for deliverance; I need to be *delivered!*"

But the Bible says "*God has delivered us from the power and the authority of darkness*" (Col. 1:13). The word "darkness" in that verse includes everything that Satan is and every weapon that Satan has, doesn't it? "Darkness" includes the devil's kingdom and everything that goes along with it.

If you know the spiritual blessings you have already been blessed with in Christ which include deliverance from Satan's rulership and domain, you don't have to pray to get delivered from the devil. Believers don't have to pray for deliverance from the devil! That's the reason we need to teach people what already belongs to them in Christ. Christians have power and authority over the devil *now*; they just need to appropriate this deliverance and walk in the light of it.

COLOSSIANS 1:13

13 ... [God] hath delivered us [or translated u s]

The word "translate" here means *to take out of one kingdom and put into another kingdom*.

God has taken us out of the kingdom of darkness; that means He's taken us out from under the *authority* of darkness; out of the *power* of darkness; and out of the *control* of darkness.

If anything has *power* over you, it has *authority* over you. If anything has power over you, it rules and dominates you. But the believer is not to be ruled by demons, evil spirits, or anything to do with Satan's kingdom. The believer cannot be ruled by demons and evil spirits unless he allows it. If believers can be ruled by Satan, then that means the Body of Christ can be ruled by demons and evil spirits.

But Jesus is the Head of the Body, so Satan has no right to rule and dominate Jesus' Body!

Every member of the Body of Christ has the same authority over Satan. Even if you feel that you are the least member of the

Body of Christ—

if you feel that you're the little toenail on the little toe of the left foot—the devil still can't rule over you, *unless you allow him to*. He doesn't have any authority to rule over you because you have been delivered from his dominion and his authority. God in His great plan of redemption has already made every provision for you, and He has delivered you from Satan's dominion and He has given *you* dominion over all the hosts of darkness!

We're talking about what already belongs to us as Christians! Authority over the devil already belongs to you if you're in Christ. It's part of your inheritance in Christ. Very often Christians pray for things that are already theirs. I just wonder if sometimes God doesn't say, "Why don't you wake up and find out what belongs to you and get up and walk in the light of it?"

Deliverance belongs to you! Deliverance from any habit or any problem belongs to you as a believer! Say it out loud to yourself so it will register on your mind and heart: "I have been delivered. I am already delivered from Satan's dominion and control. I have been delivered out of Satan's kingdom and his rulership. Satan is not my master or my Lord. Jesus is my Lord. I don't have to try to get something that God has promised is already mine!"

Thank God, the Bible says that all spiritual blessings are ours now. The Father God in His great mercy and by His great plan of redemption has delivered us from the power, authority, rule, and the dominion of darkness. Let that register on your mind and heart! God has already translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son.

Learn to walk in the light of that reality!

Who Has Authority Over Satan?

God began to reveal His Word to me about my authority in Christ in an unusual manner. I was holding a meeting in a certain church in December 1952, and the pastor and I were praying in the kitchen of the parsonage.

Suddenly Jesus appeared to me. He said, "I'm going to teach you concerning the devil, demons, and demon activity. From this day forth what is known in My Word as discerning of spirits will operate in your life when you are in the Spirit."

This entire vision lasted an hour and a half.

One of the things Jesus said to me was that there is not one single scripture in all the Bible (particularly in the New Testament because that's the Covenant we are under) that tells

us to pray against the devil. "Furthermore," Jesus said, "there's not one single scripture, that tells the Church to pray that I, the Lord Jesus Christ, or that God the Father will do anything about the devil."

Then He went on. He said, "To pray against the devil or to pray that I, the Lord Jesus Christ, will do something about the devil or God the Father will do something about the devil, is to waste your time." I said, "Dear Lord, I've wasted so much time then because that's exactly what I've done!"

Then Jesus began to give me scriptures to prove that the Church already had authority over Satan. He went first to Matthew 28. He said, "The Bible says that when I arose from the dead, I said to My disciples, '*All power [or authority] is given unto me, in heaven and in earth.*'" (v. 18).

"Now," He said, "if you stop reading right there you would say, 'Jesus, *You do* have authority on earth because this scripture says so.' But," He said, "I immediately delegated that authority to the Church. I immediately said to 27

the Church, '*Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*' I immediately said, '*These signs shall follow those who believe.*' One of the signs I said would follow believers is that in My Name they will cast out devils." Jesus quoted it this way, "In My Name believers will exercise authority over the devil" (Mark 16:15-18).

You couldn't very well cast out devils if you didn't have authority over them, could you? Also, you couldn't cast out devils if you didn't *exercise* the authority you'd already been given! Jesus delegated that authority to us—the Church.

Then Jesus said, "Every writer of the New Testament who wrote a letter to the Church—every single one of them—told *the believer* to do something about the devil. The writers of the New Testament never told the Church to get someone else to pray for them about the devil."

"For instance," Jesus said to me, "In his letter to the Church, Peter said, '*Your adversary the devil walks about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour*'" (1 Peter 5:8).

Jesus said to me, "Peter could have written to these believers and said, 'Word has come to me about the ministry of our beloved Apostle Paul.

Word has come to me that God has anointed Paul, and Paul is sending out handkerchiefs and cloths to people so they can deal with the devil.

When these handkerchiefs and cloths are laid on people, evil spirits, demons, and devils will depart from them. I suggest you write Paul and get one of those handkerchiefs so you can deal with the devil too.' No, Peter didn't say that!

Peter told believers that *they* were to resist Satan steadfastly in the faith."

Who is our adversary? The word "adversary" means *an opponent, an enemy, or one arrayed against us*. Our adversary is the devil. He's our opponent and our enemy. He's the one who's arrayed against us. And, remember, Satan is the god of this world so he's walking around down here on earth seeking whom he may devour.

Peter wrote this verse to Christians. The devil is not seeking sinners to devour; he's already got the sinner. He's seeking Christians in order to devour them.

What are you and I going to do about the devil?

God told the Church that we are to resist Satan. You couldn't resist him if you didn't have authority over him, could you? God wouldn't ask you to do something that was impossible, would He? Every believer has the same authority. Here is where the Church has missed it. We know that the Name of Jesus belongs to us, but we don't exercise our authority over the devil as we should. Paul was writing to the church at Ephesus, to believers, when he said, "*Neither give place to the devil*" (Eph. 4:27).

What does that mean? That means the devil can't take any place in you unless you let him—unless *you* give him place. "You" is the understood subject of that verse. *You* are not to give any place to the devil. That means he can't take any place in you unless you let him. But that also means he can take a place in your life *if you let him*.

You could not keep Satan from taking a place in you unless you had authority over him.

But you do have authority over him! So many Christians either don't know they have authority over Satan or they just willingly go ahead and yield to him. When they yield to Satan, he certainly will take a place in their lives. But they have authority over him to cast him out and to put him on the run if they would just exercise the authority that already belongs to them. The Church has been remiss in taking authority over the devil!

Actually, the Church has been remiss in walking in the light of all of its divine rights and privileges—the "all spiritual blessings" in Christ.

After all, everything Christ bought and paid for at Calvary belongs to the Church *now*. There are benefits in the new birth. Find out what they are and then walk in the light of them. Study the scriptures for yourself which tell you who you are *in* Christ and what you have *in* Him. Find out for yourself what benefits are provided for you because you are the righteousness of God in Christ.

Healing is also a part of the "all spiritual blessings" you have been blessed with in Christ.

Study the scriptures on healing and find out for yourself how you can walk in the light of the Word in this area of your redemption. Then, too, if you have been born again, the Name of Jesus belongs to you. Begin *to use* what already belongs to you! Instead of allowing Satan to dominate you, exercise the authority over him that already belongs to you in Jesus' Name. Remember, it's the doers of God's Word who prosper in life! So let's begin to use what has been so graciously provided for us by our heavenly Father so that all we do will bear fruit to His glory!

Say it out loud to yourself: "The Name of Jesus belongs to me. The Name of Jesus belongs to the Church. I am a member of the Body of Christ, therefore, that Name belongs to me. I have the authority to use that Name in prayer. I have the authority to use that Name against the devil, demons, evil spirits, and over all the forces of evil. The Name of Jesus is greater than any name. I am redeemed. I am delivered from the authority of darkness. Darkness has no authority over me. Satan has no authority over me. Satan cannot dominate me. Sin cannot dominate me.

Jesus is my Lord."

A Sinner's Prayer to Receive Jesus As Savior

Dear Heavenly Father . . .

I come to you in the name of Jesus.

Your Word says, "... *him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out*" (John 6:37), So I know you won't cast me out, but you take me in, And I thank you for it.

You said in your Word, "*Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved*" (Rom. 10:13).

I am calling on your name, So I know you have saved me now.

You also said, "*if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him*

from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:9-10).

I believe in my heart Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I believe that He was raised from the dead for my justification.

And I confess Him now as my Lord, Because your Word says, ". . . *with the heart man believeth unto righteousness. . .* " and I do believe with my heart, I have now become the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21)... And I am saved! Thank you, Lord!

Signed _____

Date _____

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