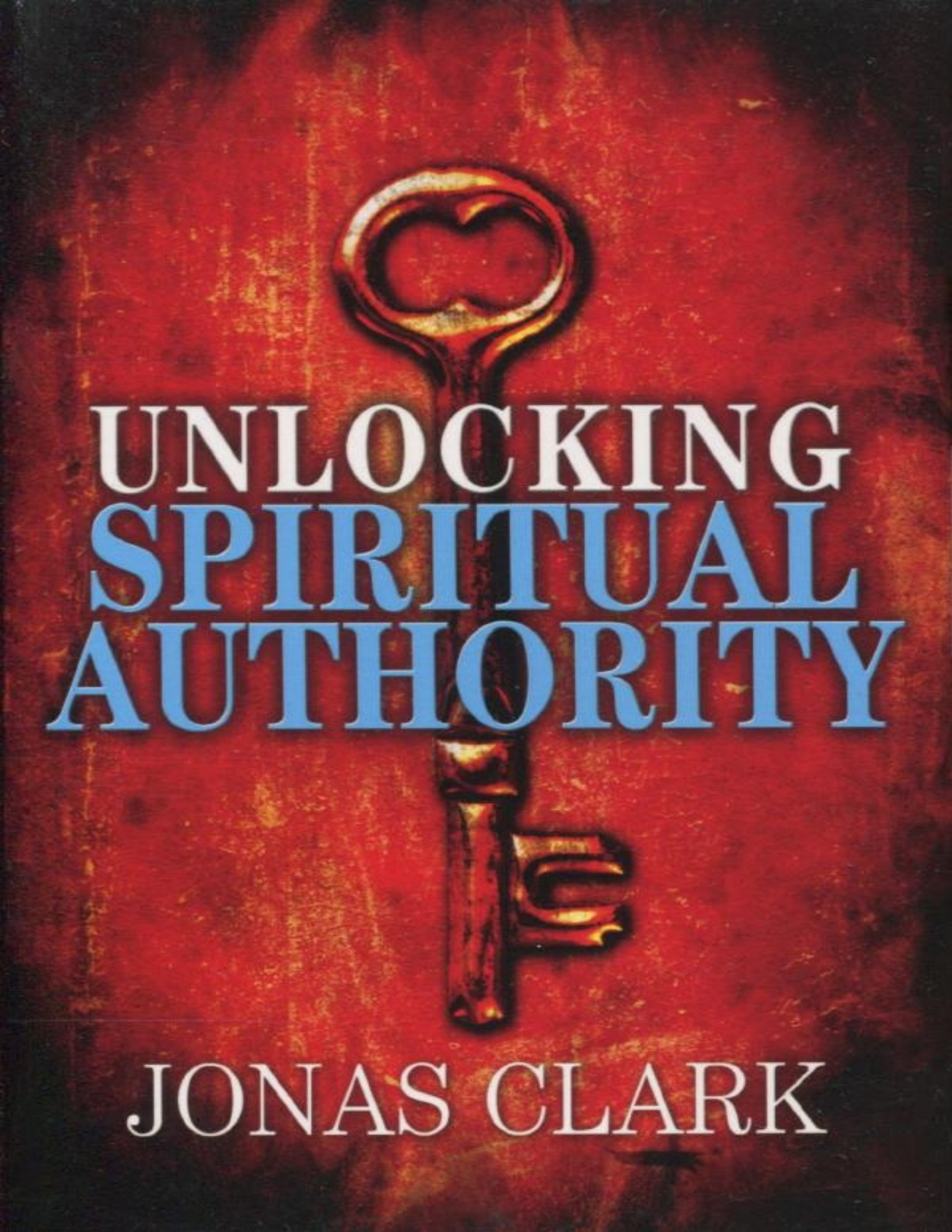
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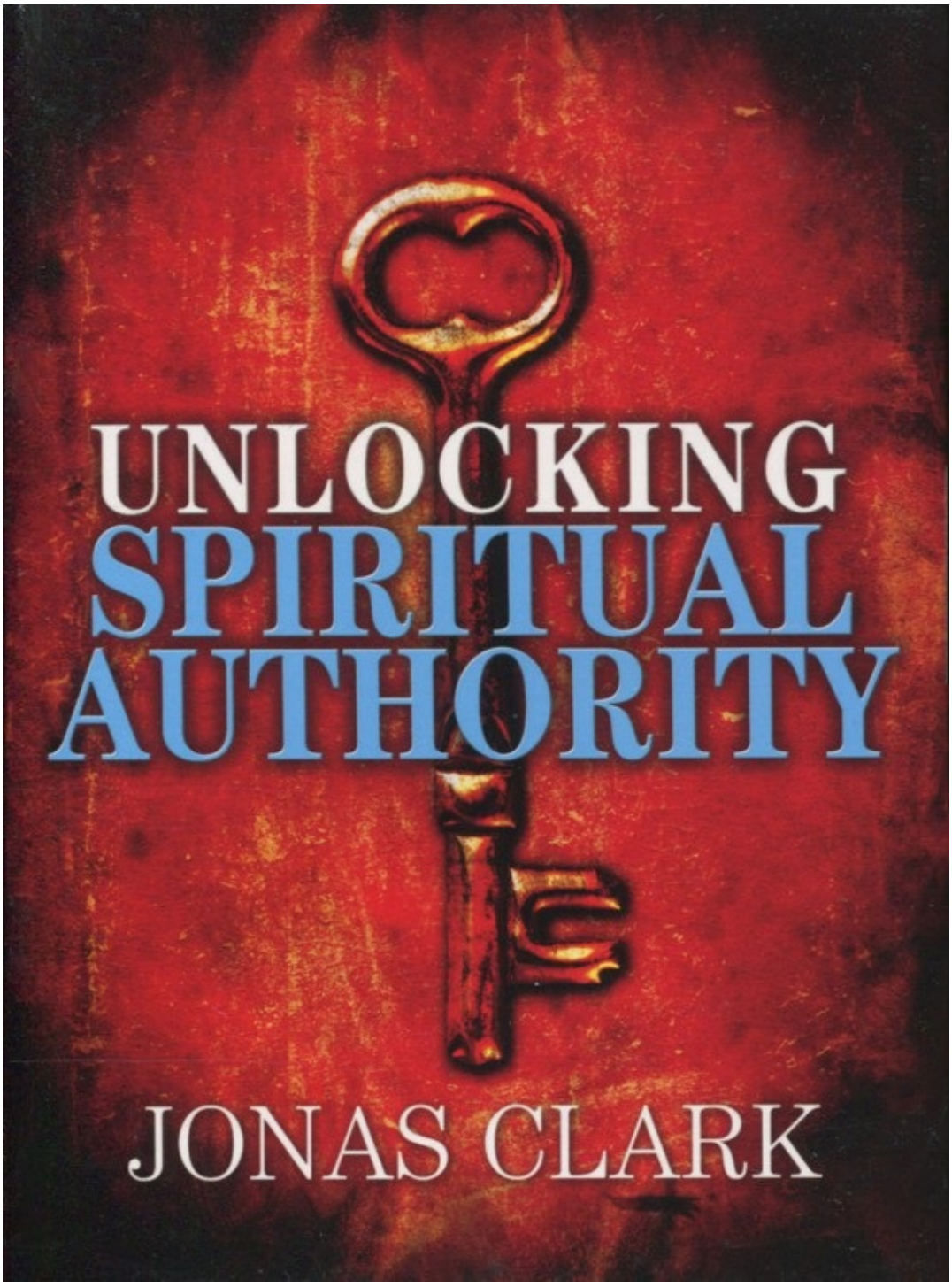

UNLOCKING

SPIRITUAL

AUTHORITY

by Jonas Clark

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.

UNLOCKING SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

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UNLOCKING SPIRITUAL

1

AUTHORITY

our kingship was God’s original

Yintention and He hasn’t changed His

mind. From the moment Adam lost his

kingship (spiritual authority) and was expelled

from the Garden of Eden God has been

working all things after the counsel of His will

—to restore this world and everything in it

back to Himself.

Luke records God's plan in Acts 3:19-21:

Repent ye therefore, and be

converted, that your sins may be blotted

out, when the times of refreshing shall

come from the presence of the Lord; And
he shall send Jesus Christ, which before

was preached unto you: Who the heaven
must receive until the times of restitution
of all things, which God hath spoken by
the mouth of all his holy prophets since
the world began.

RESTORING WHAT WAS LOST

Restoration is the act of restoring to the rightful owner something that has been taken away, lost or stolen. The word “restitution” in this Scripture comes from the Greek word apokatastasis, meaning “to return this earth back to its perfect state before the fall.” God has been working to restore the earth to its perfect state and to restore man’s kingship for thousands of years.

In the beginning, we know that God created Adam in His own image, in His

likeness and with His nature (Genesis 1:26).

The Word says that “God formed man from

the dust of the ground and breathed life (not air) into his nostrils and man became a living soul” with purpose—to fellowship with God and have dominion over this earth (Genesis 2:7; 1:26).

In the original creation Adam was perfect. He lived out of his spirit. He communed with God out of his spirit. He was connected to God through his spirit. He named the animals from his spirit. He tended the garden from his spirit. He exercised his kingship, or dominion, over the earth from his spirit.

We were designed from the beginning to take dominion over this earth that God has created. We can never see our original intent restored until we are first born

again and subsequently learn to live
out of our born-again spirits.

7

Unlocking Spiritual Authority

Scripture tells us that God put Adam in
the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.
He also gave Adam a command:

Of every tree of the garden thou
mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not
eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest
thereof thou shalt surely die. (Genesis 2)

Of course, Adam did not immediately die
when he ate of the fruit. He lived to be 930
years old. God was talking about a spiritual
death.

Some time after this we read the
testimony of Eve's deception by the serpent.
That old serpent told Eve that the reason God
didn't want her to eat of the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil was because her

eyes would be opened and she would be like God (Genesis 3:5). The reality was that Adam and Eve were already like God. They were

created with the very nature of God, in the image of God, blessed by God, and given dominion over the earth by God.

We all know the sad conclusion, Eve partook and Adam did, too. Sin entered the earth and Adam's spirit died because the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Adam’s disobedience caused a communal disconnect between his spirit and the Spirit of God. Adam and Eve began to live out of their souls instead of their spirits. (Your soul is your mind, will, intellect, reasoning, imaginations and emotions.) They were led by their five senses —touch, hearing, sight, smell and taste— instead of their spirits. Before the fall they simply knew what they needed to know. They

could draw any knowledge they needed directly from God’s Spirit. Their fall was the genesis of soulish education.

When God came into the garden to

fellowship with Adam, he heard the Lord's voice and tried to hide among the trees. God called out to Adam, asking "Where art thou?” Adam replied,

I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself. (Genesis 2:8-10)

Of course, God knew where Adam was all along. God is all knowing. He didn't ask because He didn’t know. God knew where Adam was physically but He couldn’t find Adam in His Spirit. For the first time Adam was not connected to God through his spirit. From that moment on, God determined to restore mankind back to Himself. I can almost

hear God saying, "Adam, I’m coming to get you! ” In order to work this out to the counsel of His will, God had to send the Second Adam, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

10

Unlocking Spiritual Authority

What we need to understand here is that Adam didn’t fall from heaven. He fell from grace and rulership. Our ultimate destination as born-again believers is not heaven, but earth. Even the rapture only takes us to heaven for a short time. We will eventually return to this earth to rule and reign with Christ. We don’t need incorruptible resurrected bodies to live in heaven. We need them for life on earth.

MANIFESTING SONS

Adam did not understand his purpose. Not understanding our purpose is the foundation of all failure. God's original intent for man has

always been to fellowship with Him. We were designed from the beginning to take dominion over this earth that God has created. We can never see our original intent restored until we are first born again and subsequently learn to

live out of our born-again spirits.

Scripture says that the Holy Spirit is our Teacher who will lead us and guide us in all truth. He is the One who is actively involved in the restitution of all things. Friend, the Spirit-led life is the answer to walking out your kingship. The Apostle Peter said we are a priesthood of kings (1 Peter 2:9). Jesus said it is the Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom (Luke 12:32). Scripture declares,

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but

by reason of him who hath subjected the
same in hope, Because the creature itself
also shall be delivered from the bondage of
corruption into the glorious liberty of the
children of God. (Romans 8:19-21)
How can we manifest as sons? By

exercising our kingship authority as believers
and walking out the restored biblical truths of
our generation. Every “movement"
throughout history has resulted in some form
of truth being restored to the Body of Christ.
After the resurrection of Jesus, religious spirits
attacked the Church and we plunged into the
Dark Ages. Yet the seed of the Kingdom of
God had already been planted and was
destined to outgrow everything.
And he said, Whereunto shall we
liken the kingdom of God? or with what
comparison shall we compare it? It is like a

grain of mustard seed, which, when it is
sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds
that be in the earth: But when it is sown,
it groweth up, and becometh greater than
all herbs, and shooteth out great branches;
so that the fowls of the air may lodge
under the shadow of it. (Mark 4:30-32)

We, the believers, are those kings,
Jesus has given us authority as
priests and kings. We have a solid
revelation of our priesthood, but we
have yet to fully comprehend what
it means to be a royal (kingly)
priesthood.

Consider this. It took over 2,000 years for
the Church to be prepared for the restoration
of this “kingship of every believer” truth.
What we do with this revelation of kingship,
as the original intent is up to us.

We need to lay hold God's government—and our kingship—before we can see true reform in the Church. Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. He is the King of Glory Who rules His Church. He is the King of the Universe with servants, ambassadors, armies, enemies, and, yes, a fully functional

government.

The Prophet Isaiah declared that there would be no end to the increase of His government and peace. Jesus is predestined to reign on David’s throne over His Kingdom, establishing and upholding it with judgment and justice forever (Isaiah 9:7).

Most of us are familiar with Isaiah's prophetic decree, but does the Body of Christ truly recognize that the seat of Jesus’ rule on earth is in the local church? Or has religion tainted our view of the local church by

portraying it as merely a gathering place for believers to worship God and listen to a Sunday morning motivational sermon? In some sad cases the local church has been reduced to nothing more that a social club with a religious montage.

Unlocking Spiritual Authority

The restoration of apostles is shedding new light on the local church as not only a gathering place for believers to get equipped to do the work of the ministry but also as a governmental center in a spiritual jurisdiction assigned by God. Local church leaders and believers, then, must understand the government of God in order to be most effective in accomplishing its mandate to manifest the Kingdom of God.

Looking at the structure and function of natural governments can help us to better

understand spiritual governments. While natural governments include senators, ambassadors and presidents, for example, spiritual governments include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, priests and kings. Scripture declares,

And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly

teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. (1 Corinthians 12:28)

In both realms, governing is ruling by right of authority, administering policy, exercising power, and regulating, influencing, restraining and managing the affairs of men. So if Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords, and He is, then just who are these kings that Jesus is King of? We, the believers, are those kings. Jesus has given us authority as

priests and kings. We have a solid revelation of our priesthood—we can sing, worship, preach, pray and prophesy with the best of them; we can cast out demons and lay hands on the sick and watch them recover—but we have yet to fully comprehend what it means to be a royal (kingly) priesthood.

SPIRITUAL JURISDICTIONS

17

Unlocking Spiritual Authority

God sets churches in territories as governmental centers filled with believers who are called to invade, occupy, influence and manifest the dominion of the Kingdom of God on earth just as it is in heaven. As kings who have been planted and sent out from local churches we have been assigned places of spiritual jurisdictions (domains) in which to rule and reign and to establish heaven’s rule on earth.

How will we see His Kingdom come on

earth as it is in heaven? Demonstrating kingship through evangelism is the key to changing cities because when people are saved and baptized in the Holy Ghost the devil will lose his grip on the crime-riddled, drug infested neighborhoods he set out to destroy. As we reach out to the lost, we build the Church of Jesus Christ and establish His Kingdom in our territories.

18

Unlocking Spiritual Authority

BUILDING GRACE

Jesus, our High Priest, King, Lord and Chief Apostle, has assured us that He is building His Church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it (Matthew 16:18). Take note that Jesus is not building His Church in heaven and no demon power is opposing His heavenly government. No, Jesus is building His Church and establishing His Kingdom here, and we—as priests and kings with an

apostolic building grace—are called to help Him. You might say our Lord is the Lead Architect and we are the construction workers that follow His blueprint to build His Church. The Author and Finisher of our faith is also a Warrior and He is using us as a battleaxe to overcome demonic enemies opposing His rule on earth. The battle against Jesus' governing rulership is directed against every

believer and the local church in particular. The gates of hell have shut down many a local church and caused many other once-on-fire believers to hang up their armor and head for the hills. The apostolic grace imparted to believers equips them to break through the spiritual resistance to building the Church and living a strong Christian life.

INVADING DARK KINGDOMS

The Apostle Paul equipped the believers at

Ephesus with spiritual weapons to victoriously battle the forces raging against the government of God on earth. The wise masterbuilder said,

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)

Unlocking Spiritual Authority

Jesus gave His Church the right to exercise His majestic authority, challenge anything that opposes His Word, resist demon principalities and powers, decree a thing, announce, command, influence, and, yes, govern.

The Greek word for “principalities” is arche, meaning the habitation of demonic government. He then proceeded to equip

them by imparting faith, truth, the Word of God, revelations of their righteousness in Christ, their salvation and the importance of invading the kingdoms of darkness by spreading the Gospel.

Paul's strong words in his epistle to the Ephesians capture the essence of the fight to stop the local church from equipping believers to rule and reign as priests and kings. It paints

a vivid picture of the wiles of the enemy designed to hinder believers from governing spiritually and influencing naturally. The devil knows that the local church connects the spiritual realm with the natural realm. The evil one understands that the local church is more than the house of God; it is also the gate of heaven. Remember Jacob's ladder? The Bible records Jacob's powerful dream in which he saw the Lord atop a ladder that stretched

from the earth below into the heavens above. Jacob saw angelic beings ascending and descending on that ladder delivering divine assignments directly to the servants of God. He called the footrest of that ladder the house of God, the gate of heaven (Genesis 28:10-17). As Christ's ambassadors, we need to understand that Jacob's prophetic dream portrays local churches today. The local church is a house of prayer, where revelation,

strategies, instruction, direction, warning and the prophetic voice are released into the heart of God's victorious believers. It is where the Holy Spirit governs through His Word, His voice and His people. It is the place for the perfecting of saints and the gathering of sent ones and companies, all called to take the Kingdom of God into the heart of their cities (Acts 13).

Paul also told the Ephesians that it is now God's intent for His Church to make His manifold wisdom known to the rulers and authorities in those same high places (Ephesians 3:10). Making His wisdom known is accomplished through the act of exercising and demonstrating His righteous rule on earth.

AMBASSADORS OF CHRIST

Finally, Paul taught the Corinthians that

Jesus must rule through His Church by continuing to put down all opposing spiritual government, authority, and power, thus subduing all His enemies under His feet (1 Corinthians 15:24-28). Jesus gave His Church the right to exercise His majestic authority, challenge anything that opposes His Word, resist demon principalities and powers, decree a thing, announce, command, influence, and,

yes, govern.

Jesus has entrusted His government to His Church. We must not lose sight of the truth that local churches are set in territories and have an awesome responsibility to invade and occupy with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Believers are ambassadors of God's government—ambassadors are the highest-ranking representatives of a government or kingdom—and every believer is called to actively represent and demonstrate the rule of

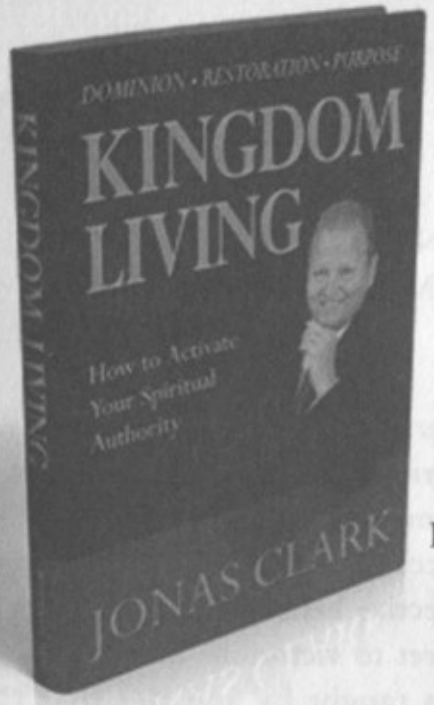
God on earth (2 Corinthians 5:20).

When you understand the governmental function of the local church, then you can find your place in it as a believer. Remember,

You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of

darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

Keep in mind that Jesus said He is building His church—not a ministry that is disconnected from the local church. If you help build what He is building—the local church—then the "increase of His government" will come on you, too.



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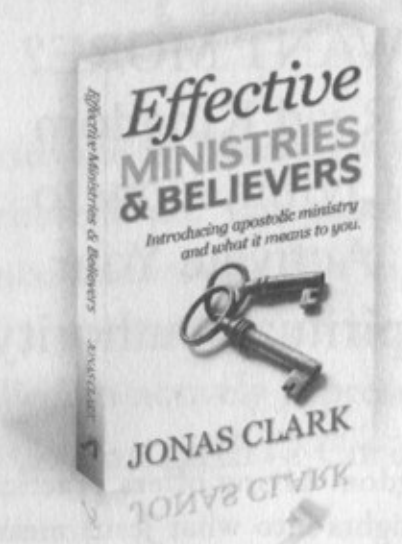

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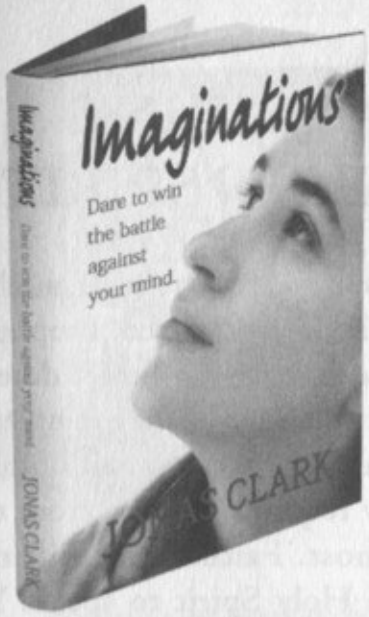

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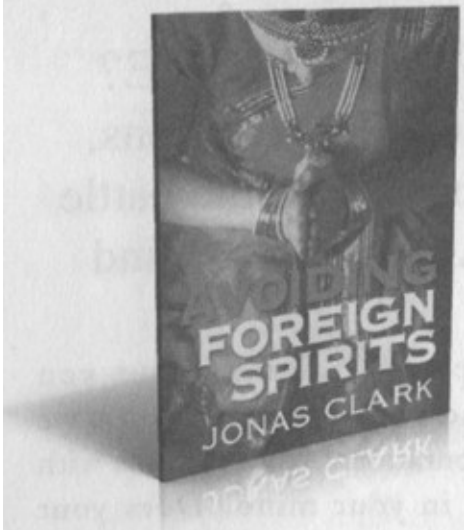

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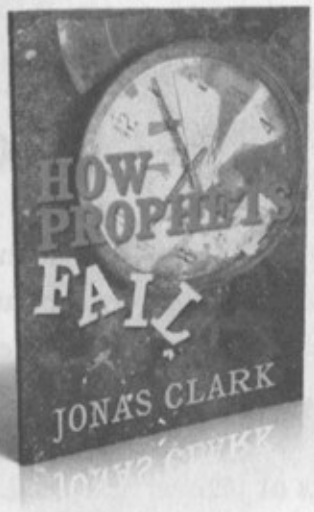

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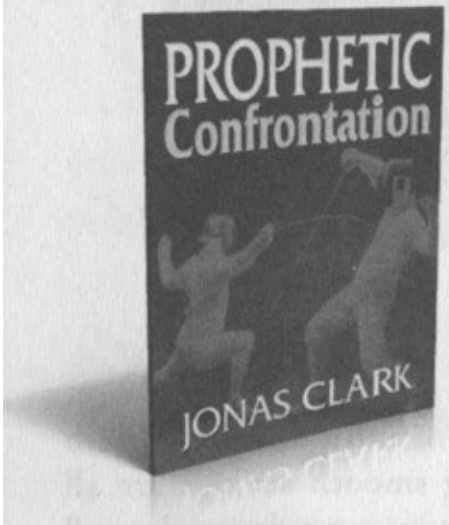

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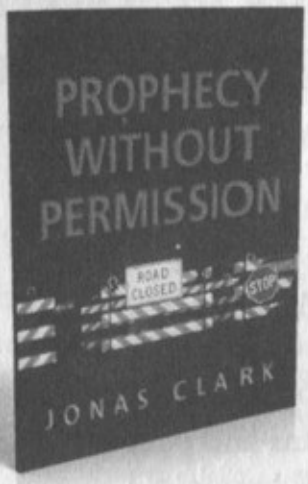

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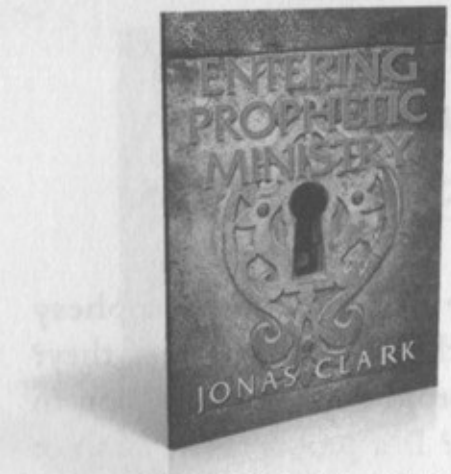

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The anointing on Jonas Clark's life is both strong and bold. His great passion is to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world. Fortitude and God's grace have taken the ministry international, carrying a message of divine impact and reform for this generation into over 25 nations. As a reformer, his desire is to see the nations of the world impacted by the power of God. Jonas has written more than a dozen books with an apostolic and prophetic voice that are catching the attention of the Church.

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    - Manifesting the Kingdom of God
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    - Building Grace
    - Invading Dark Kingdoms
    - Ambassadors of Christ