Sacred Space Such Authority

PREPARATION

Now Christ has gone to heaven. He is seated in the place of honor next to God, and all the angels and authorities and powers accept his authority. 1 Peter 3:22

CONFESSION

But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic.

For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind. $_{\rm James~3:14-16}$

ADORATION and GRATITUDE

As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him.

His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed. Daniel 7:13-14

MEDITATION & CONTEMPLATION - Mark 1:21-28*

Jesus and his companions went to the town of Capernaum. When the Sabbath day came, he went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority—quite unlike the teachers of religious law.

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read Slowly, several times.

Reflect How do I relate to this?

Respond What is my next step of obedience?
Rest Receive God's healing and renewal.

Suddenly, a man in the synagogue who was

possessed by an evil spirit began shouting, "Why are you interfering with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

Jesus cut him short. "Be quiet! Come out of the man," he ordered. At that, the evil spirit screamed, threw the man into a convulsion, and then came out of him.

Amazement gripped the audience, and they began to discuss what had happened. "What sort of new teaching is this?" they asked excitedly. "It has such authority! Even evil spirits obey his orders!" The news about Jesus spread quickly throughout the entire region of Galilee.

ANCHORING PRAYER

"I know who you are—the Holy One of God. You have come to give me life."

REVIEW OF THE HEART

- When did I sense, accept, or exercise spiritual authority recently?
- When did God's will "appear" to interfere in my affairs?

WISDOM

- For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12
- Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons. 1 Timothy 5:1
- "Authority exercised with humility, and obedience accepted with delight are the very lines along which our spirits live." c.s. Lewis

TESTIMONY What is God saying to me?

INTERCESSION Prayers for the Church, others, and me.

CLOSING PRAYER

Now all glory to God, who is able to keep us from falling away and will bring us with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen.

Jude 1:24-25 (adapted)

SACRED SPACE EVERY DAY

Be still and quiet before God.

Be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Pray for the Sacred Space community.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. *Episcopal Lectionary, Year B..

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