

Born to Ride

Pastor Marvin R. Barham

A few days ago I had my first opportunity to ride my motorcycle with a larger group. What an experience. It was very exhilaratingly. There is just something about riding as a pack as apposed to riding alone or even with a few others. With the loud pipes, and rubbing of motorcycle engines, the pack provides a sense of authoritative dominion on the road.

So it is in the Kingdom of God. Christ told the disciples, "I have come to bring to you the Kingdom of God. To restore to you the authority and dominion over all the earth. To delegate to you the authority of the Father." (**Mark 1:14-16** *14Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.;* **Mark 4:11** *11And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables.;* **Mark 12:34** *34And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God.*) There is no greater authority or dominion than that of the Kingdom of God. But to run in this pack you must pay a price. A high price. (**Matthew 13:45-46** *45Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.;* **Matthew 20:21-22** *21And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom. 22But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.*) The price is to sacrifice what is your most prized possession until you discover this pearl of great price. It is to sacrifice self for the Glory of His Name. It is to lay all of your kingdoms down and embrace His. To ride upon the wings of true freedom, is to fall in the ranks of those who have chosen to ride upon the authority and dominion that only comes through brokenness and humility that flows from a hill called Calvary.

John 1:1 *1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:14* *14And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

It has been said that Jesus was Born to Die. So it is. But to die was not the end of the journey. The end of the journey was to ride again. (2 Samuel 22:6- 14 *6The sorrows of hell compassed me about; the snares of death prevented me; 7In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried to my God: and he did hear my voice out of his temple, and my cry did enter into his ears. 8Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of heaven moved and shook, because he was wroth. 9There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it. 10He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and darkness was under his feet. 11And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: and he was seen upon the wings of the wind. 12And he made darkness pavilions round about him, dark waters, and thick clouds of the skies. 13Through the brightness before him were coals of fire kindled. 14The LORD thundered from heaven, and the most High uttered his voice.*) Where was Jesus Christ (the Word of God) before He was Born to Die? In 2 Samuel the Word of God rode upon the wings of the wind in authority and dominion, delivering the people of God from the snares of her enemies. The Words of God could rule over the enemies of His people. Where the Word of God did not rule was over the hearts of His people. Time and time again God delivered His people yet time and time again they turned from their love for their deliverer to idols of selfish gratification and indulgence from the enmity of their hearts. God could not get Egypt out of the Israelites. **Isaiah 19:1-2** *1The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it. 2And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and every one against his neighbor; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom.* So remains today. The Word of God is sharp and power (**Hebrews 4:12** *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*). Yet the people of God treat it with disdain. It is to turn to only in times of distress. Cry out to Him when we are in trouble. But when times are good, we fill our time with everything but His Word. It is so

easy to find delight in so many things this life has to offer in the kingdoms of men, than to cause our souls to delight in the power of His Word that brings dominion and authority of His Kingdom to our daily lives. **Isaiah 58:13-14** *13If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: 14Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.*

Jesus Christ was not born just to die but **He was Born to Ride**. **Revelations 19:6-13** *6And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. 7Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. 9And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. 10And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. 11And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.*

Is this figure Jesus? Yes, but a better way of putting it is that he is "**the testimony of Jesus**"--and consequently "**the spirit of prophecy**" (v. 10)--displayed in visible form. His name, after all, is **the Word of God** (v. 13), a phrase elsewhere linked closely to "the testimony of Jesus" (1:2, 9; 20:4). Moreover, he is **Faithful and True** (v. 11), attributes as appropriate to a prophecy or a testimony as to a person (compare v. 9, "These are the true words of God"; 21:5; 22:6). (*Matthew Henry's Concise Commentary*) The Word of God is the only thing in this life and the life to come that was and is and always will be faithful and true to you. The power of His glory dwells in the testimony of His life changing power in the lives of those who ride with Him. Those who have surrendered their lives to His Kingdom reign and rule. It is attributed as glory unto Him when we dwell in His righteousness as sons and daughters of the Most High. When we get off of our high horse and let Him take the place of self in our lives. When we let Him in complete control. When we let the voice of the power of His Word ride upon all of our thinking, our hopes, fears, hurts, dreams, ambitions, desires, words, actions, and attitudes. Christ came that the authority and dominion of the Word of God might ride upon the spirits of God's people through the power of the Holy Spirit. It no longer exist just to deliver you from the snares of your enemies but that you might walk in it's power to keep you from the snares of your enemies.

Rev 21:1-7 *1And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*

The Word of God was born to ride. The day will come when He will ride upon that white horse and the nations will tremble before Him. But the day has come NOW for the Word of God to ride with you. The day has come that the power of His blood has brought the water of life to you. The day is NOW to let the Word of God take residence in who you are. The day has come for you to join the pack in the Kingdom of God as Sons and Daughters who ride through this journey of life with the authority and dominion of His Word. Take hold of the throttle, the Word of God, the Holy Spirit, that empowers your life with Truth, and join the pack.