

# Sermon Reflections

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## *Unmatched Authority (Part 2) (Matthew 8:18 - 9:8)*

**Summary:** Surrender your rights to Jesus' unmatched and better authority.

Can anyone forgive anyone? Can you offer forgiveness even when you don't mean it? What makes you think God will forgive you?

### **By His Unmatched Authority ...**

#### **1. Jesus Conquers Evil Powers (vv. 28-34)**

- If even the demons feared the reality of the power of Jesus, do we forget the significance of His power as we think of Him as our friend and brother?
  - How can we, practically, maintain the appropriate awe of Him?
- We see that the crowd asked Jesus to leave after seeing His power. Have you ever, in the course of your day to day life, wished that Jesus would just "leave you alone"? Why?
- Read James 3:14-15. According to these verses, which aspect of possible evil influence do you realize may be in your current life and relationships?
- Read Ephesians 6:10-12. Where must we look for strength against evil? What is our part?
- Read Mark 5:18-20 and Mark 7:31-32. What do we see about the importance of evangelism in these passages?

#### **2. Jesus Clears One's Sins (vv. 9:1-8)**

- As we have been forgiven forever through Jesus' death and resurrection, why should we regularly read our Bibles and pray for forgiveness? How may we be affected if we neglect these spiritual disciplines?
- Compare the reactions of the people in 8:34 to those of 9:8 after seeing the authority of Jesus. What does this help us understand?
- How can this passage of scripture be helpful in witnessing to an unbeliever?