

# UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK 5

MATTHEW 8:23-27

## GOSPEL CLASS

**Sundays starting February 19, 9:30am**

8 week class that goes through basic Doctrine in Christianity & what Element believes specifically.

## MEN'S MINISTRY

**Next Men's Breakfast February 11th, 8a**

**Go-Karting Event, Saturday, March 11th**

Sign up at the Welcome center by March 1st.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**New Study begins This Wednesday, February 8th**

Book: Respectable Sins by Jerry Bridges.

Wednesdays at 9:30am.

Childcare is provided.

## BAPTISMS

**Are you interested in getting baptized?**

We are scheduling our next baptisms and would like to know who is interested, if you would like more information or are ready to be baptized, email [connect@ourelement.org](mailto:connect@ourelement.org) or sign up at welcome center.

## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: [www.elementroots.org](http://www.elementroots.org).

- The Element Team

# AUTHORITY OVER NATURE

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 8:23-27

Matthew 7:28-29

Psalms 77:16

Job 38:8-11

Psalms 65:6-7

Job 26:7

Genesis 1:1-3

Genesis 1:21

Matthew 8:26

James 2:19

Job 9:8

Habakkuk 3:15

Psalms 18:16

Psalms 144:7

Hebrews 1:1-3

February 5, 2017

[www.ourelement.org](http://www.ourelement.org)

# AUTHORITY

## OVER NATURE

## WEEK 5 SERMON NOTES

These verses were a way to speak into that fearful culture of a strong authoritative God that saw everything as under His control. The idea was reinforced by Jesus and His life and ministry as well.

We are looking at Jesus' authority over 15 different areas in the next 15 weeks. We do this because we often say we are under Jesus' authority, but we don't like it, or refuse to live like it. Today Jesus shows His authority over nature. This sounds like a biggie, especially for us in California; authority over nature is bigger than we typically imagine.

**Have you ever been caught in the middle of a storm?**

**How did you feel?**

Many ancient cultures believed that the earth was surrounded by water and that malicious monsters lived in that water. Everyone held this belief with the exception of the Israelites, because scriptures teach the earth is suspended in space (Job 26:7). All of these other cultures saw water as a sinister spiritual force that was out to destroy them. Water had personality like fear, it rages, it rebels. People were afraid of the ancient evils that water held and what it could do.

Ancient cultures viewed creation as a struggle between order and chaos because they faced chaos every day; drought, starvation, shipwrecks, and epidemics were common. Genesis 1 challenges the core assumptions about the nature of God and human beings. In the ancient world, all of these stories were in contrast to Genesis 1 and God who reveals Himself into this chaos ("*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth*")...that sentence changes the world.

**Where in your life does it feel chaotic?**

The scriptures are clear that it is God who made the seas, the waters, and that He alone has control of them.

- *Psalm 77:16 When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; indeed, the deep trembled.*
- *Job 38:8-11 "Or who shut in the sea with doors...and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?"*
- *Psalm 65:6-7 the one who by his strength established the mountains, being girded with might; who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,*

**Read Matthew 8:23-27.**

**What would it look like to trust in Jesus despite the chaos that comes into our lives?**

Biblical faith is a covenantal concept based in the person of Jesus. Biblical faith is like saying I do when you get married, it is a pledge given in faith to another person (this starts with God to us), we then respond and commit our loves and lives to Him no matter how big the storms are in our lives. Biblical faith in God is not mere belief, biblical faith is acting on the belief we say we have.

**Do you believe that Jesus is who He said He was?**

**If you do believe Jesus is who He declared Himself to be, how can we be a people who act on that belief?**

In Israel's past they saw glimpses of God's glory, but it was always mediated through something, like a priest...but when Jesus came He was God with us. There was nothing that separated us from Him. This is how it all comes together; acting on what we believe. When we act on what we believe the waters may rise and teem with horrible creatures that want to overtake us, but in those moments we are to trust Jesus and His authority more than ever.

**What does it mean to not be afraid?**

**Would you say you have faith? If so, what does it look like?**

**How does it manifest itself in confidence in Jesus?**

It is imperative that we have a true picture of Jesus and not a false one. We will never have a faith relationship with a God we don't trust. When Jesus shows up it is God's way of blowing apart all of our false images of Him. Jesus is God in His essence and He lives the life we should have lived, died the death we should have died, and then He raises to new life to restore relationship with us and makes all things new.

**How has your life changed since trusting Jesus?**

**How do you love your enemies?**