

The Great Badge Of Power

“Proclaim the power of God, whose majesty is over Israel, whose power is in the skies”. – Psalm 68:34



In ancient times, the *Pulo'ulo'u*, or *kapu* staffs was placed at the gateway or door of the Ali'i's home or other possessions, at sacred sites, and cities of refuge to which a person seeking safety might flee. The *Kapu* stick also signified prohibition and was the ultimate symbol of authority and law and order to the ancient ones. In 1840, the Supreme Court of Kamehameha III established the first constitution for the Kingdom of Hawai'i. It was the *Pulo'ulo'u* that King Kamehameha III awarded to the first constables as a symbol of his royal authority in their office. The constitution paved the way for the *Act to Organize the Executive Departments of the Government* signed on April 27, 1846. The law created the office of “marshall of the kingdom”, the highest ranking police officer in the nation. He nominated, instructed, supervised and controlled the sheriffs of the kingdom of which there were four, one for each administrative region of Kaua'i, O'ahu, Mau'i and Hawai'i. Each sheriff administered a corps of constables officially appointed by the four royal governors. Constables wore a distinct police insignia that consisted of a scarlet crown with the initials “*KIII*” in honor of King Kamehameha III. The insignia was worn on the arm and on a red band on their police hats. The first modernization of this insignia came in 1952 with the introduction of the Honolulu Police Department's current badge. It has remained the primary symbol of police authority.

In our scripture reading today, the psalmist encourages us to “proclaim the power” of God. You see, when Jesus died on the cross, He gave each believer two things: **POWER and AUTHORITY**. The first thing you want to understand in the family of God is, we are called to be “empowered”. Jesus says to us “you are going to be successful as you learn to rely on a power that does not come from YOU”. That’s why we need to understand something. We’ve got to learn that our strength is meaningless against a spiritual “enemy”. I want you to know that we have no prayer against matters of evil in our trials and troubles, so, if you decide to fight on your own, I’m telling you now, YOU’RE GOING TO LOSE! Why? Because the Bible says, the only way to fight a “spiritual fight” is to use “spiritual” power that comes to all of us through Christ. The Apostle Paul says, “Be strong in the Lord and His mighty power”. In other words, God has designated His power to us as believers. He says, “You are to use my power because I’m the only force in the universe that the enemy fears.”

It's important that you understand this. Here's why:

You can be saved for 50 years, but, the enemy is not afraid of you. He's not afraid of your testimony or witnessing. He's not afraid of what God is doing in your life.

HE'S NOT AFRAID OF YOU, PERIOD! HIS ONLY FEAR IS THE POWER OF GOD! So, when you fight with power and strength that comes from God, then, and only then, will you experience victory. I want to let you know that you've been around for a bunch of years, but, the enemy's been around for thousands of years. He's seen the best come and go. He's defeated people stronger than you. He's defeated smarter people than you. He's defeated people that were saved longer than you, so, if you want "spiritual victory", you must be empowered through the Lord. That's why, effective "warriors" for Christ "tap" into the power source through prayer. If you're "prayer-less", then, you're "powerless". You'll be deceived and defeated every single time. I want to let you know that if you rely on the power of God and believe it----it doesn't matter what you're up against, you'll get the help you need because the source of your victory is in God-----**NOT YOU!**

Ephesians 3:20 teaches that God is "able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us." Whatever obstacles are in your way; whatever mountains block your path; whatever dark valleys and raging rivers hinder your journey in life,**WALK IN THE CONFIDENCE OF GOD.** It doesn't matter whether there's conflict in your marriage, your job or your finances,say, "Lord, if I'm going to be victorious and I know that you've promised that to me, I must be empowered by YOU."

Do it right, now, because when you do, the enemy better get out of your way because you're claiming your territory.

"GOD HAS GIVEN YOU THE GREAT BADGE OF POWER".