



[Matthew 28:18](#)

(18) And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

King James Version

Let us consider the issue of power with respect to [Jesus Christ](#). He says of Himself in [Matthew 28:18](#), "All authority [power, KJV] has been given to Me in heaven and earth." "Authority" is translated from *exousia*, which has wide usage in the Greek language. It can be used to indicate jurisdiction, privilege, capacity, freedom, influence, force, and right, besides authority and power. Obviously, its usage is not restricted to sheer, brute strength. Jesus, then, is perfectly equipped to handle our needs in the widest variety of situations.

Notice that Jesus says authority has been given to Him. For this to be true, a greater Being must be the Giver. In this vein, [1 Corinthians 15:25-28](#) transports us into the future, revealing the source of His powers:

For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that [God](#) may be all in all.

The Giver in [Matthew 28:18](#) must be the Father, so the word "all" in that verse excludes the Father, who is supreme in authority. The resurrected Son is the channel through which the Father's every purpose and plan are being worked out.

How extensive is Jesus' given authority? [Colossians 1:14-19](#) explains some of His authority more specifically:

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Matthew 28:18 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

. . . in whom we have redemption through His blood, the [forgiveness](#) of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell. . . .

Paul stresses Christ's positional authority, that is, where Christ stands in relation to all other beings, whether human or spirit. "Firstborn" in verses 15 and 18 does not refer to His being created, as other verses clearly show that He has eternally existed. Here, the word indicates primacy of rank, since the apostle is showing Christ's status in relation to all other beings and institutions.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Power Belongs to God \(Part Two\)](#)

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