

# The Lordship of Christ

Jesus is God.  
God is Jesus.  
Jesus is God, Lord and Savior.

And Thomas answered and said to Him, **"My Lord and my God!"** Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." *John 20:28-29*

LORD = God and Master of your life = God rules over you. This requires submission of the believer and servant to the will of the only true God.

Christian = Follower of the Christ. To follow Jesus Christ is difficult because it requires the person to make Jesus Lord of his life. This submission by the believer to Jesus is absolutely necessary for salvation.

**"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."** *Matthew 7:13-14*

The question I ask as a pastor is: What constitutes only a few find eternal life? I would certainly think less than 10% and probably more like 3, 5 or 7% of people. Understand, of course this percentage number is not for us to know, but this passage definitely warns us to take our salvation seriously.

**"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you: depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"** *Matthew 7:21-23*

**"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"** *Luke 6:46*

**"if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."** *Romans 10:9*

**"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God."** *1 Cor. 6:9-10*

Christ continually emphasized the difficulty of following Him. Salvation is by grace alone, but it is not easy. It calls for knowledge of the truth, Repentance, submission to Christ as Lord and a willingness to obey His will and Word. Heaven and Hell is real, and only a few find Heaven. This is why I consider Matt 7:13-14 to be the scariest passage in Scripture. Christianity is not easy and unfortunately most people go to Hell when they die. This is hard for many people to believe, but this is just the way it is. These are God's rules. You must be a true Christian to go to Heaven. Remember if a person practices sin and lawlessness, and makes certain sins a habitual continual lifestyle, they are not saved. Do not make the mistake of creating your own "warm and fuzzy" god with your false rules and not the true living God's rules. As Scripture says, you must:

**"work out your own salvation with fear and trembling"** Phil 2:12

"For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now

**'If the righteous one is scarcely saved,**

**Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?'"** 1 Peter 4:17-18

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that **those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.** Galatians 5:19-21

Love of money and personal possessions can be such a stumbling block that it actually rejects the person's claim of Jesus' Lordship over his life. It is actually a form of unbelief. We are not to be brought under the power of any particular sin. Sin can and will control you and take over your life if you let it. Do not let sin rule over you.

There are 5 steps of the practice of sin and evil desires:

- 1) The person conceives it in his heart and mind.
- 2) The person acts on it.
- 3) The person practices it as a habitual, intentional, continual lifestyle.
- 4) The person refuses to Repent of it.
- 5) The person is judged on Judgment Day by Jesus and receives eternal punishment in Hell and the Lake of Fire.

Many people think they are saved, but in fact, they are not saved. They struggle with Jesus ruling over their life. Many false Christians love money, sexual immorality, power and possessions more than Jesus; and have these sins as their false god. These sins rule them instead of Jesus. Pride is the worst sin because it separates a person from God. Satan fell away from God because of his pride. With pride, a person is stubborn, self-willed and hard-hearted. They choose to do their will (practice sin) and not do the will of God.

**L O R D = God, Lord and Master.**

The true Christian submits to the rule of Jesus Christ over his life.

- L** = Love and Lordship (Submission).
- O** = Obey God's will and Word.
- R** = Repentance and Respect.
- D** = Depend (Trust in God) and Die to self.

Die to self means to do what Jesus wants, not what you want. The believer lives for Christ and not for himself. Sacrifice yourself for Jesus— Carry your cross daily. The Christian identifies with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christians are born again when they accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior and are immediately transformed into a new person. They live a Christian life with a desire to serve and please Jesus because they love Him.

Amen.