

## Jesus as Lord

One of the great words found in the N.T. is the title Lord. It appears 717x's.

Just the number of times this word appears in our Bibles ought to catch and capture our attention. It's almost as if the H.P chose to put this word on every other page of our N.T.'s

If you were to take 3 sig N.T. words such as Baptism, Church, and Kingdom, then count up the number of times they appear, you would have them show up 375x's.

The word "Lord" appears almost twice that many times. One of ways you can recognize what God considers to be important is by the amount of space he gave to it.

Whenever we recognize that on about every other page of our Bibles we see this word, surly we ought to be impressed with the fact that God is saying,

"I want you to think about this word and I want you to see the implications of it." Today I want you to think about this word with me."

A. The word Lord is used in Ref to God, Jesus and the H.P. in the book of Acts.

1. In addition to that it is used in Ref to masters and slaves (Col 3:22).
2. It's used in Ref for anyone who has a position of leadership. Festus referred to the emperor as "my Lord" (Acts 25:26).
3. It is used in Ref to husbands (1Pet 3:6). Sara speaks to her husband Abraham as her Lord. Peter said that the daughters of Sara would do well to do the same thing. I don't expect my wife to call me L.
4. Sara's use of the word means "I respect my husband and I regard him as my leader and I am giving him the honor and respect that he is due.

B. That is the human side of the word.

1. But in Jn 20:24-29, Thomas finds himself standing before Jesus. Here He is in this physical body with mortal wounds but alive He is the lamb slain who is alive from the dead.
2. Thomas is asked to reach out and touch the holes in his hands and his sword driven side. This overwhelmed Thomas. I take it he did what all of us are going to do.
3. He fell on his knees and said, "My Lord and my God." Thomas used this word in a divine context.
4. It means that Jesus is deity and ruler of everything. Thomas was saying that from now on you are the ruler of my life.

C. We know this word is used in a distinctive way in Ref to Jesus.

1. It declares that he is the divine son of God and that he is over the church. That is the way Peter uses this word on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2:
2. He was toward the end of his sermon and said, "Let all of the house of Israel know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified"(2:36)
3. Jesus is Lord in a special sense. He is the anointed one sent from God and Lord of His church. I want you to think about this word Lord. There are many aspects to our Lord's Lordship.

4. I believe that God intended for us to really think about this. And as a result we will know more about what it means to really live for Jesus and what it means to live under His lordship.

#### **I. We must see Him as our Risen Lord.**

In Rom 1:4 Paul spoke of Him as one “Who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

A. How is it that Jesus is declared the son of God through the resurrection? Ever thought about this Qu?

1. Isn't it true that Jesus was the son of God before he rose from the dead? Isn't it true that He was the son of God from the very beginning?
2. I believe it is. Do you remember when the angel appeared before Mary and declared to her, “the one conceived in you will be called the son of God” Lk 1:35).
3. Then whenever those angels appeared before the Shepherds they said “The one born today is Christ the Lord.”
4. There is a sense in which Jesus was always Christ the Lord from the beginning all the way to the end,.
5. But whenever he rose from the dead, that's when God declared him to be Lord over the entire Christian age and Lord of his church.

B. The empty tomb is an argument that nobody's been able to answer.

1. The Jews could not answer it, the gentiles could not answer it and nobody can answer it today.
2. The N.T. comes to us saying, “if you don't believe that Jesus is the son of God then ans the argument of the empty tomb. How do you explain it?
3. Is there any explanation that a person could give accept that J.C. is the son of God? One man was telling everybody that he's going to start a new religion.
4. Pretty soon people got tired of hearing him and they said, “Here's what you do.
5. You go out and die for the people, rise from the dead, then come back and tell us about this religion your going to establish.

C. Jesus is the only founder of a religion who has risen from the dead.

1. This was the time that God declares His son to be our Lord. In Phil 2 Paul says that Jesus died on the cross and He became like one of us.
2. He was just as much human as if he were not divine at all. And He was just as much divine as He were not human at all. Then he went to the cross to die for our sins.
3. 3 days later, Jesus was not resuscitated, reincarnated, or recreated; He was resurrected. If one bone was found in the grave it would have totally destroyed Christianity.
4. Long ago, Job asked, “If a man dies, will he live again? (Job14:14). God's answer is “yes” because Jesus was raised.



5. When we think of Jesus being our risen Lord that brings us a lot of comfort. It's because of him that we will be alive with God forever and ever. That's my Lord. He is our resurrected Lord.

Now let's think of the Consequences of His Lordship, **II. He is our Redemptive Lord**

A. Jesus is the only hope that I have for salvation. Have you ever noticed the wording of Rom 10:9?

"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.

1. Every once in a while these inspired writers will take one part of the way to salvation and use it in a summary statement. They use it in a way that's not excluding but including.
2. In Rom 5:1, Paul says "we are justified by faith." If you wanted to think about the motivation power behind all we do in obedience to Christ you would sum it up with the word faith.
3. When Peter got down to Jerusalem after baptizing Corneous and his household the Jewish Christians asked him, "What happened down there?"
4. Peter summarized it saying, "God has granted to them repentance unto life."
5. If you wanted to summarize the remarkable change that occurs when somebody becomes a Christian how would you do it? Maybe you would choose the words "repentance unto life".

In Lk 22:46-47 Jesus chose to summarize salvation with the idea of "repentance and remission of sins."

B. If you wanted to emphasize the marking line that God has drawn in regard to salvation you might chose to use the summery that Peter gave in 1 Pet 3:21, "baptism now saves us."

1. There are various ways these inspired writers summarized the way of salvation. That's what Paul does in Rom 10:10. He says, Confess Jesus as Lord....and you will be saved.
2. Whenever you confess that Jesus is Lord that covers it all.
3. I once heard of a young couple that was planning to get married and they decided to write their own vows. I've been told that anytime you do a wedding be careful when couples do this.
4. If it's to long it's hard to remember and there's no telling what they might say.
5. This bride had a wonderful expression that she wanted to use and the groom had a wonderful expression that he wanted to use.

C. As he gave his vow's and put the ring on her finger he said, "this is the last thing I'm ever going to give you." If I said that to my wife, I know what she would say, "You better give more that."

1. Now what he meant by that statement is this. "I'll never need to give you anything else because as I give you this ring I am pledging to you that I am giving you everything."
2. I am giving you what I am, I am giving you what I process. And I am giving you everything that I'm going to be.
3. I won't need to give you anything else because I've included everything in this one gift, this ring that I'm putting on your finger.

4. Whenever somebody says J.C. is Lord with the proper understanding and commitment that includes everything else. That includes B,R,C and B.

5. As we think of the consequences of His Lordship we have to see Jesus as our redemptive Lord.

### **III. We have to see him as our reigning Lord.**

Jesus was Lord on the day of Pentecost. He was Lord at the end of the book of Acts. He was Lord at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and he is Lord now.

1 Cor 15:25, "For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet." Eph 1:19-23

A. This is the struggle that all of us face. Is Jesus really my Lord? Is he the Lord of my time, energy, money and my family? Is he truly Lord of my life?

1. Suppose you were home one evening and the door bell rang. You answer the door and standing there is a man you haven't seen for 10 years. He is a dear friend of yours, your delighted to see him.
2. You say "it's great to see you come on in. You ask him, "how have you been"?
3. And he says well I was around in this area and I knew this is where you lived, so I decided to come bye and say hello.
4. You say, "well why don't you stay for a couple of days and we can rematch old times. We have an extra bedroom, the wife and I have to work in the morning but we'll just turn the house over to ya.
5. Raid the fridge if you get hungry, just make yourself at home and we'll try to get back from work just as soon as we can.

B. The next day you and your wife race home early to visit.

1. As you open the door you say, "Hello, Hello, were home, we got here a little early. You get no answer. You say Hello, Hello, as you look around and find him.
2. He's seated at that special desk. Everybody has one. All the paperwork is there. How you spend your money, all the money you have in the bank is there.
3. All the information that tells whether or not your house is paid off, what kind of vacation your going to take, all those private matters and he's plowing through them.
4. You say, "Pardon me, pardon me, and he looks up. He says, "I hope this is alright, you said my house is your house. So I'm going to take over. I just wanted to see how you've lived your life. I wanted to see how I could help you out. What would you say to a man like that?

C. What would we say to Jesus?

1. I could be that many of us would say, "Lord Jesus I would be glad to obey the gospel. I'll B, R,C, and be baptized into you.
2. I'll be there on Sunday morning, I'll even be there on Sunday evening and Wen night. I'll help serve as a member of the church.
3. But there is a little part of my life Lord, that I can't release to you, it's mine. I make these decisions. What do we say to Jesus? Jesus is Lord.



4. That means I can't hold out and say this is mine Lord, all mine. I think the best people that ill this is our missionaries. They take off over seas leaving everything behind.
  5. They say goodbye to everything they hold dear. Why? Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord.
- D. Back in the days of Jesus if you called someone LORD, that meant they owned you and owned everything you had. They were the Master and you were the slave.
1. In my wallet I also have pictures of my family and they belong Jesus. How I treat them will be affected by the fact that they don't belong to me, they belong to my Lord.
  2. That should make want to love my wife the way God's wants me to love her.
  3. That should make me want to raise my kids the way God wants me to raise them because he will hold my accountable for every person I hold dear.
  4. When you and I declared Jesus as Lord, we are saying, "Lord you now have ownership over me and you now have ownership over everything I posses.
  5. Then as we consider the great climax of His Lordship we have to see him as

#### **IV. Our Returning Lord. 1 Cor 15:23-26**

"In Christ all will be made alive, But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

- A. Jesus is coming back to receive those who belong to Him.
1. When the Lord comes he will come with his glory and his Holy Angels with him. And then He will sit upon his throne with glory. He is our returning Lord.
  2. One young man was given the charge of keeping a garden and was very diligent in his work. There wasn't a weed to be found in it. One day a friend of his came bye to see him.
  3. He had taken him through his garden. As they were walking along, the friend said, "I believe your keeping this garden as if you expect the owner to come back tomorrow.
  4. He said, "O no, I'm keeping the garden as if I expected the owner to return today. I'm ready now.
- B. As we live under the Lordship of Jesus we must live in a constant state of readiness.
1. He's my Lord and He's coming to get me. I'm looking forward to seeing him. He's either going to call me home and give me that victory or He'll come back to get me.
  2. I believe that Jesus will meet us at death's door. I don't know much about this as you well know. I haven't died before.
  3. Lk 16 says that when the poor man died he was greeted at death's door by the angels. Jesus was here when He told that story. I think it must be different now.
  4. I believe that when we arrive at death's door my Lord will be there to meet me. I will do what Thomas did, you will do what Thomas did.
  5. We will fall on our knee's and say, "My Lord and My God."

6. "You have been my Risen Lord, you have been my Redemptive Lord, you have been my Reigning Lord and now you are my Returning Lord."

**Close:** I would like to close with one last verse. Rev2:10 "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

- A. These verse's were written to the church in Smarna In the near future they were going to undergo a severe persecution. Some of those early Christians would be called upon to die for their faith.
  1. Jesus said to them that "you may come to a cross-road in the future and when you do, remember that you may have to give up your life to keep your loyalty.
  2. And if you give up your life to retain your loyalty I will give you the crown of life. I believe this verse is talking about the intensity of our faith not just the length of it.
  3. We've said over the years that this verse means if you stay faithful all the days of your life you'll go to heaven.
  4. I'm sure that's implied but I don't believe that's specifically what is meant here. Jesus is saying, "you may have to die for me."
  5. The emperor demanded that you step up to the alter and say "Lord God Caesar." The early Christians said "we can't do that." That title only belongs to our Lord Jesus.
- B. There were some Christians who crossed their fingers. They stepped up to the alter, crossed their fingers and said "Lord God Caesar, thinking that later they would go back serving Jesus as Lord.
  1. In the early church there was a man named Tertellum who didn't like that so he asked them about this. They said, don't you know we have to live. We're just getting bye.
  2. We really didn't mean it.. We crossed our fingers but in our hearts our intentions were to go back and serve Jesus as Lord. We have to live you know.
  3. Terllium had a good answer for them. He responded to those comments by saying, "Must you live."
  4. The child of God has only one imperative. Rain, snow or shine, even in death, our imperative is to remain faithful to the Lord.
  5. Today have you've been faithful to the Jesus? Would you give your life completely over to him?
  6. If you have not yet obeyed the gospel will you respond to Jesus by Repenting of your sins and being baptized and allow Jesus to be your Lord.
  7. He died so that you can be free, free from your sins and free to reign with him for all eternity.

We invite you to come and allow Jesus to be the Lord of your life as we stand and as we sing.