

The Lordship of Jesus Christ

Jim Downing

I. Introduction.

- A. Three reasons Jesus Christ should become the pre-eminent Person in your life.
- B. To be persuasive, a message must be ethical, logical, and appeal to the emotions.
- C. Saying “not so” and “Lord” in one statement is contradictory. When Jesus is Lord, the answer cannot be “no.” (Acts 10:14)
- D. The goal is that Jesus Christ would have pre-eminence. In every heart there is a throne and a cross. Both are continually occupied by Christ and self. When Christ is on the throne, self is on the cross and vice versa. (Colossians 1:18)

II. Reason 1. (John 15:13)

- A. Christ held back nothing but went all the way for us.
- B. An ancient man Omniphorus won over a woman by “trumpeting” her abroad. Paul also “trumpeted” abroad the love of Christ. (Acts 22:12)
- C. You can trust the man who died for you.

III. Reason 2. (Psalm 34:4)

- A. The only way you will experience the desire of your hearts is to make Jesus Lord.
- B. You are special to God.
 - 1. Christ has a different name for each of us who know Him. It is a private name spoken by Him to use that only we will know. (Revelation 2:17)
 - 2. God has created every star different and each releases a note that makes up a celestial symphony. So too, each individual person contributes a different note to God’s symphony. Do not leave your place vacant or try to duplicate what God has called someone else to do. (1 Corinthians 15:41; Job 38:7)
 - 3. The example of Erwin Moon. God gave us talents to dedicate to Him.
 - 4. Straight thinking tells us that making Jesus Lord of our hearts will give us the desires of our heart. It is about super-abundant life. (John 10:10)

IV. Reason 3. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

- A. We will all appear before the judgment seat of Christ so that we will receive according to the deeds of the body.
- B. We will be rewarded for what we do for Christ. (1 Corinthians 4:5)
- C. We will give an account of the days that Jesus was not pre-eminent.

V. What does this look like practically?

- A. Christ said that He was in a campaign to do battle and build without ridicule. But when we do not forsake all we have we bring ridicule to Christ. (Luke 14:33)
- B. It is not merely material possessions that we are to forsake - we are to forsake anything that hinders His working through us. God wants the will and the heart yielded to Him. "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep for that which he cannot lose," said Jim Elliot. (Luke 9:24)
- C. Busyness is no excuse for not making Jesus Christ pre-eminent in your life. (1 Kings 20:40)
- D. You will be better in all of your relationships if you make Christ Lord of your life.

Application questions.

1. Review the three reasons for making Christ Lord of your life. Which is the most compelling reason to you personally?

2. Can you think of any other reasons that Christ should be made Lord of one's life? Explain.

3. What is holding you back from this deep commitment to Jesus Christ? Or what is hindering your present commitment? List walls that have been built up and assess each of them with someone else. Does the loss really compare to the gain?
