

## The Way of the Lord

### 28. Living With Jesus As Lord: Free From Passive Aggression

*“If you acknowledge publicly with your mouth that Jesus is **LORD** and trust in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be delivered. For with the heart one **goes on** trusting and thus **continues toward** righteousness, while with the mouth one **keeps on** making public acknowledgement and thus **continues toward** deliverance”* (Romans 10:9, 10 CJB).

You can't miss the deliberate 'pressing on' aspect of Paul's admonition about the **Lordship** of Jesus: we *“go on trusting”* and *“keep on making public acknowledgement”* of Jesus as **LORD** of our life. This **LORDSHIP** of Jesus is a daily, intentional yieldedness to HIS will rather than our own. This means that Jesus has *all* power and authority to *rule* your life.

If He's **LORD** of your life, He's *your Master*. And as Scripture repeatedly affirms, you are His *beloved slave* (Greek *doulos* = slave) purchased by His blood to do His Father's will. You can recognize people who know Jesus as their **LORD** because they always seek His will before they act. And, they know they need His empowerment in order to follow through in obedient trust. If you live with Jesus as **LORD** of your life, it will cost you *everything* because you *belong* to Him. He *purchased* you as His own treasured possession, and He has the right to tell you what to do, where to go, and what to say. He won't rest until you acquire His character and motives, and are fulfilling the purposes of your heavenly Father just as Jesus did.

Be aware that if you're influenced by passive aggressive symptoms, they'll keep Jesus from being **LORD** of your life. Why? Because when you yield to passive aggression, you're putting *yourself* in control of your life. And you *can't* respond to the Lordship of Jesus, Who calls for your immediate obedience when He makes His will known to you. That's why it's so important that you and those close to you in the faith be deliberate in ridding yourselves of passive-aggressive symptoms. When you are resistant, unwilling to follow through on responsibilities, and insensitive in your relationships, *you're* staying in control. That means Jesus *isn't* in control—so He's *not* the Lord of your life.

Let's review how this “I'M in control” mentality has taken over Christians in recent decades, and what you need to do so that Jesus *will* be Lord of your life.

- Generations have been seduced by counterfeit gospels which stress Jesus as SAVIOR but ignore His **LORDSHIP**. False gospels often *disregard* the need to *repent*, so people approach God with unchanged hearts that are full of demonic strongholds. Since they have no intention of *turning away* from their sin as biblical repentance demands, their lives are unchanged and their sin nature stays in control.

- Husbands and fathers have failed to role model and train their families in the way of the Lord. Wives and children have been outsourced to religious institutions for instruction.

- The Bible literacy rate has dropped from 65% to 4% in three generations. The morals and values of Christians and unbelievers are now the same. Compromise reigns!

In 1967, the Hebraic foundations began to be restored by our heavenly Father as

Jerusalem was returned to the Jewish people as He promised. Undergirding these foundations is the LORDSHIP of Jesus in those who yield to the indwelling Holy Spirit to transform them into Christ's likeness. The Lordship of Jesus begins with families and fellowship families freeing themselves from strongholds and passive aggressive symptoms. Then their mutual trust in their Father enables them to fulfill His will.

- Husbands and fathers intentionally apply God's Word with their families so their lives righteously represent Jesus.

- Individuals, families and fellowship families who live with Jesus as Lord of their lives are willing to pay the cost of becoming more like Him in obedient trust.

- The Lordship of Christ is the basis to authentic fellowship as they earnestly seek His guidance and totally rely on the power of His Spirit. As vessels of God's love, families and fellowship families mutually extend His Kingdom on earth.

Do you yearn to cooperate with our Father in what He's been restoring for the past 40-plus years? Then you need to mutually rid yourselves of all strongholds and passive aggressive symptoms, apply God's Word to all areas of your life, and be willing to pay the cost of living as a beloved slave under the *Lordship of Jesus*. And this means biblical fellowship only with those who also are eager for the Lordship of Christ in their life. All other people are opportunity for *outreach!*

As we said in Segment 26, a clear sign that the symptoms of passive aggression are gone is an *increased trust* in our Lord. And along with your trust is your willingness to receive input from others. It's no coincidence that wholehearted trust in Jesus and a willingness to take counsel from others is necessary for a healthy marriage and home life. And those qualities are needed for a fruitful and healthy fellowship family as well!

The life of serving Lord Jesus as His beloved slave is very practical: you *seek His guidance* so you can *do His will*. And, you *rely on His power* so that His Name is lifted up by your obedient trust. Listen to how Jesus puts this Master and beloved slave relationship in perspective: "*So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy slaves; we have only done our duty'*" (Luke 17:10). All of us who walk the way of our Lord under HIS LORDSHIP should have this same humble and loving response.

### **For Further Study**

- Hebraic Article: *The Gospel of the Covenant Is the Pilgrimage to Salvation*
- Going to the High Places study guide: *Introduction*
- Going to the High Places study guide: Chapter 18. *Hinds' Feet*
- Teaching E-mail 34. *When Jesus Says 'GO', What Do YOU Do?*
- Teaching E-mail 43. *Are You A Revolutionary Parent?*

Each is a free download on our website: <restorationministries.org>