

## October 22, 2011 Is The Lord Jesus Commanding You?

We've just completed an extremely trying two weeks as we completed segments 36 thru 41 in our **Way of the Lord** series. These latest episodes address [\*Theological Hindrances to the LORDship of Jesus\*](#). When you're exposing principalities and powers that have held countless thousands captive in theological falsehoods, the battle is fierce. We were confronted with considerable loss of sleep, numerous physical challenges, and even having to lay hands on our computers at times to cast off demonic hindrance (and yes, the glitches were resolved through the mighty Name of Jesus!). But thanks be to our God — the answered prayers of those who remember us before Him got us through. Thank you...*very much*.

**Something new:** We're putting two forms of the entire *Way of the Lord* video series on our website. The first is faster for those who want to stream — to watch it as it's downloaded. The second form is higher quality if you're burning the videos onto DVDs.

**A helpful hint:** If you're using Quicktime and find the video stream stopping due to slow connection speed, there is an arrow at the *lower right of the Quicktime video*. Click on it, and click "*connection speed*." Under "*streaming*" you can set the speed of your internet connection, and you can choose "*longer delay*" to create a larger buffer. This will let more of the video download before it starts to play, and hopefully eliminate the stop and go.

***"Therefore I tell you that no one  
who is speaking by the Spirit of God says,  
"Jesus be cursed," and no one can say,  
"Jesus is LORD," except by the Holy Spirit"***  
(1Corinthians 12:3).

We know from some of the e-mails and phone calls we get that a number of people have a difficult time understanding our walk in Jesus, especially the demonic opposition we face. But we also know that when an individual or married couple chooses to live with **Jesus as LORD** of their life, only then will they understand both the joy that brings as well as the demonic opposition that attends it. His LORDship defines a way of life of *loving obedience through His Spirit*.

Recently I (Mike) delivered a warning the Holy Spirit had given me for a man (let's call him "John") who teaches the weekly Bible study here in our senior mobile home park. John's content and presentation is the same for both God's children and unbelievers who sit in on his classes. The Spirit prompted me to warn him that he was committing "spiritual adultery" by this approach. John's particular theological heritage makes little distinction between those who have embraced Father's Covenant in Christ and those who don't, so he struggled in our conversation trying to understand how important this

distinction is to our heavenly Father. (Certainly the pattern of distinction between being *God's people or not* is evident throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, and Paul in particular makes clear that only IN CHRIST are we *members of God's household*. That distinction distinguishes His children from those who follow the ways of this world and serve the ruler of the kingdom of the air, Satan. See Ephesians chapter 2, for example.)

John told me that he tested whether a person is a "Christian" by whether they could say "**Jesus is Lord.**" The Spirit roused me to respond that "Lord" isn't Jesus' title as in "Doctor Smith." Just *saying* "Lord, Lord" and even doing "religious works" in His name gains you no entry to the Kingdom if you're not doing *your Father's will*! Responsiveness to Jesus as your LORD evidences an intimacy that reflects His relationship with His Father. (See Matthew 7:21-23.) Your *independent* actions just prove that His "Lordship" in your life is only a title to you, not His role.

We've noted in previous writings that while the English and Greek languages emphasize a noun or subject, Hebrew emphasizes the verb, that is, the action or what the subject *does*. In this light, "*Lord*" is what Jesus *does*—He "masters and rules" me by commanding me to do His Father's will as His beloved child, soldier, family member, sheep and all the many other facets of a glorious relationship with Him. And through His indwelling Spirit, He strengthens and girds me to follow through in obedient trust.

John asked how I was able to discern whether someone is living with Jesus as LORD of their life. I answered with joyful gratefulness for my Master, "As LORD, Jesus commands through His Spirit and His Word, and we as His beloved slaves (*douloi*) obey out of loving trust in Him. I'll ask people how God guided them in key areas of their lives, like where they live, their work, how they chose to educate their children, what faith community they're part of. If they tell me they made their decision by relying on their *own rationale*—weighing the pros and cons—I know that Jesus **isn't** Lord of their life." The eyes of his understanding were opened, and he left with a lot to think about.

In **Way of the Lord** Segment 30. *Living With Jesus As LORD: His Guidance Is Essential*, we state, "Whenever God gives a *rhema* word and it's *trusted*, His spiritual power goes forth to accomplish His will. The same holds true for us today who know Jesus as LORD of our lives. Our Lord has many ways to reveal His will to you. He may use a Bible passage, or spiritual gifts of prophecy, exhortation, wisdom or knowledge. He may use dreams or visions; you may hear a still, small voice within you; or a thought may come to you that you sense is God revealing His will to you."

If Jesus is LORD of your life, when you're asked *why* you've made a key decision, you should be able to relate one or more ways in which He commanded you. The trail should lead to His LORDship in and through you, not your reasons for why it seemed a good idea at the time. Commit *His way* to memory: "**Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding [rationale]; in all your ways acknowledge Him [attest to Him as THE Source], and He will make your paths straight**" (Proverbs 3:5,6). Can you see the difference? Are you willing to set aside the world's ways of being your "own lord" so that Jesus alone can direct your path as

LORD?

We recently received a letter from David Wilkerson (written prior to his homegoing) dated 10/3/11 as we've been producing videos on the Lordship of Jesus. This excerpt seemed especially timely, and we hope you'll set it in your heart as wise counsel:

"I believe three things are required of all who would hear God's voice:

1. You must have an unshakable confidence that God wants to speak to you. Indeed, he is a speaking God. He wants you to know his voice so you can do his will. What God tells you will never go beyond the boundaries of Scripture. To understand his voice, all you need is a heart that says, "I believe God desires to talk to me."

2. You must have quality time and quietness. You must be willing to shut yourself in with God and let all other voices hush away. God does speak to us all day long, but when he wants to build something into your life, his voice will come only when you have shut out every other voice.

3. You must ask in faith. We do not obtain anything from God (including hearing his voice) unless we truly believe he is able to convey his mind to us and enable us to understand his perfect will."

Through the video segments on the LORDship of Jesus, we've been showing you what the Holy Spirit has given us to share: how to rid yourself of the *passive aggressive hindrances* that compel you to be *in control of your life*. [Some people have told us they've had to watch these four times before they understood what our Lord would have them do.] The latest six (36 thru 41) reveal the theological hindrances to the Lordship of Jesus that clergy domination of Christendom has created. We encourage you to turn to Jesus with all your heart and soul, and verify in His Word what we've presented. Call upon Him as your LORD to rule your life with the love and wisdom that only His Spirit in you can bring. There's no better place to be.

***"Be diligent in these matters;  
give yourself wholly to them,  
so that everyone may see your progress"***  
(1 Timothy 4:15).

**This isn't the time for you to *delay* living  
with Jesus as LORD of your life.  
NOW is the appointed hour!**

We've marveled how much emphasis the Holy Spirit has given us on the LORDship of Jesus, and the number of segments He's had us produce on this. Certain passages from the Book of Daniel have recently made clear to us the need for such earnestness. Daniel tells of a time when "*truth was thrown to the ground*" (8:12). As you'll see in our

video segments on the theological hindrances to the Lordship of Jesus, Christian leaders across many denominations and offshoots have altered and eliminated key parts of God's Word. The sorry fruit of these revisions is how few people live with Jesus as their Lord; Christianity as an institution has become as spiritually powerless as the man-made religions of the world.

The call to repent is absent from the pulpit. Fasting and humbling ourselves, taking responsibility for the wholesale sin that permeates this nation's atmosphere, is ignored much as it was in Daniel's day. Listen to the heart cry of the blameless prophet as he laments the woeful disregard for God among His own people: *"Just as it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us, **yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God by turning from our sins and giving attention to Your truth. The LORD did not hesitate to bring the disaster upon us, for the LORD our God is righteous in everything He does; yet we have not obeyed Him**"* (9:13,14).

*"We have not listened to **Your servants the prophets**, who spoke in Your name to our kings, our princes and our fathers, and to all the people of the land ... we **have not obeyed the LORD our God or kept the laws He gave us through His servants the prophets**"* (Daniel 9:6,10). Among the last of the prophetic men in this country was David Wilkerson, who continued to warn us for decades that we would be chastised. His earthly journey has been completed. For years he faced the ridicule of many clergy who preached that God promised His people health and prosperity. When Peter Drucker, the corporate guru, has more of an influence on many Christian leaders than the Spirit of Christ, *man-centered, SELF-idolizing Christendom* has brought about its own judgment.

We often feel as though these times are reliving the Book of Lamentations. Maybe some of you feel our sorrow...

**Mike & Sue**