

"O Lord, You are my God. I will
exalt You, I will praise Your
name, For You have done
wonderful things; Your counsels
of old are faithfulness and truth."

Isaiah 25:1 NKJV



Marietta church of Christ

8150 Driggers St.
Jacksonville, FL 32220

Times of Worship

Sunday:

9 am - Bible Classes / 10 am - Worship / 5 pm - Worship

Wednesday:

7 pm - Bible Study/Worship

Evangelist: Devin Barber

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"Why Call Ye Me, Lord?"

In Luke 6.46, the Master said, "And why call ye me *Lord, Lord*, and do not the things which I say?"

This question is designed to cause man to think long and hard about the title "Lord." When a person understands what it means to call someone "Lord," he will think twice before he attaches this word of honor to anyone.

The word "Lord," as used in Luke 6.46, as reference to "one who has power and authority." It is "he to whom a person or thing belongs" (Thayer).

People in the world today so badly need to understand what they are doing when they call Jesus their Lord. I am disturbed and saddened when I hear people call Jesus "Lord" and yet they do not make any serious attempt to come under His control and let Him guide their lives. It may well be said of them, "These people honor me with their lips but their heart is far from me" (Matthew 15.8).

Having viewed the meaning of the word "Lord," I now understand that I am making a vow of love and deep commitment every time I call Jesus "Lord." I belong to One who has all authority and power (Matthew 28.18), and I dare not use the word loosely!

I believe a life under the guidance of the Lord can be summed up in one sentence. A friend of mine said it this way: "*It means taking ourselves off the throne and putting Jesus on the throne!*" Let's study the matter, using this quotation as our guide.

The first step in allowing Jesus to be our Lord is to take ourselves *off* the throne. We are so accustomed to doing what we want to do. We often want to put ourselves and our desires ahead of Jesus. If we do not deny self, we cannot be a disciple of Jesus. Luke 9.23 says, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him *deny himself*, and take up his cross and follow Me.” Some stronger passages are found in Luke 16. Notice the words I emphasize to see how self-denial is essential to being a disciple of Christ. “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes even his own life also, he *cannot be my disciple*. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me *cannot be my disciple*. So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has, *cannot be my disciple*.”

Now, did you get the point? If Jesus is to truly be our Lord, we must take anything and everything that would hinder our obedience to Him out of the way. We must take ourselves and our selfish will off the throne! This is the whole intent of Christ’s death. Paul said that Christ “died for all, that those who live should *live no longer for themselves but for Him* who died for them and rose again” (2 Corinthians 5.15).

Now, the second step in allowing Jesus to be Lord of our lives is simple. Once we have vacated the throne and we no longer desire to rule ourselves, we simply put Jesus on the throne. Let Him be your Lord, take His yoke upon you and submit to Him. Remember, there is only “one Lord” (Ephesians 4.5). Your will cannot compete with the Lord’s will if you are going to be His disciple. Two lords are too many!

Once we decide that Jesus is our Lord, then all other decisions in life are made easier. Let me demonstrate. When I wake up on Sunday morning, I never have to decide if I am going to worship services. That decision was made when I made Jesus my Lord. Other examples could be given, but the point is that other decisions in my life as a Christian are made easily because Jesus is Lord. I simply do what He says. That’s the point from Luke 6.46. If you call Jesus, Lord, Lord, do what He says — or else don’t call Him Lord.

Now, at this point, some conclude that we sure are giving up a lot when we become disciples of Christ. Yes, there are things given up, but they can’t compare with what we gain. Paul said he regarded the things he gave up as “dung, that I may win Christ” (Philippians 3.8). Paul also said, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time *are not worthy to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us” (Romans 8.18). And then the Lord Himself said, “Verily, I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents or brethren, or wife or children, for the kingdom of God’s sake, who shall not *receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting* (Luke 18.29-30). Now, wouldn’t you say that what we may give up is really insignificant compared to what we gain? It is never a loss when Jesus is our Lord.

I urge you, dear reader, to resolve that you will never be among those who bring harm to the cause of Christ by calling him “Lord” and then not do what He says. The world is filled with too much of that. Let’s bring honor to Christ by calling Him “Lord” and then bring ourselves under the control of His yoke.

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