

Fisher's Foundations
LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 1

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS CLASS:

Is to give the student a fuller understanding of the claims of Christ on their entire life, and to help build their level of vertical trust to the point where they are willingly to completely surrender it over into His loving care.

"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. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:9, 10).

**"Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."
—Charles Wesley**

"If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice is too great for me to give for Him." —C.T. Studd

INTRO:

The Lordship of Jesus Christ means that Jesus rules without rival, supreme over every area of your life. Remember, someone or something will control your life whether it's you, your work, your lover, or one of your cherished hobbies. Perhaps selfish desires control your life when you go shopping. Whatever, if the issue of Lordship is not settled, you cannot advance any further in your beautiful relationship with God. You won't fish well.

Q&A 1. What does the Lordship of Christ mean to you personally?

I. **WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?**

Jesus Christ is fully man, but also fully God (The eternal Theanthropist. See John 3:16; Hebrews 1:8). He was sent to save us from our bondage to sin. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin (Matthew 1:18-23). He lived a perfect, sinless life (John 8:46; Hebrews 7:26). In union with His Father and the Holy Spirit, Jesus died for our sins. His vicarious death provided the full payment for all our sins—past, present and future (1 Corinthians 15:4; Mark 16:6). He physically rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven (Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9). He is currently engaged in a ministry of prayer on your behalf (Hebrews 7:25). As Lord and Judge, Jesus will one day return to judge the world—the living and the dead (Revelation 22:12). Faith in Christ is the only means by which mankind can escape eternal damnation and judgement. As the living Lord of heaven and earth, He commands and expects your personal worship and full obedience (Philippians 2:9-11). We affirm the existence of a triune God, or *one God* who eternally exists in three distinct Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and that each of these Persons is fully God. This is the only one true God. He is self-existent, eternal, unchanging, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, holy, righteous and loving. It's the God of the Bible that we are talking about and in-love with. He created all universes that exist ...from nothing and He rules over His creation sovereignly including both human and angelic beings.

A. **The Testimony of the Disciples**

"Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God'"
[Matthew 16:16].

Q&A 2. Who did Peter believe Jesus to be?

"And Thomas answered and said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!'" [John 20:28].

Q&A 3. Who did Thomas believe Jesus to be?

"Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; and declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" [Romans 1:3,4].

Q&A 4. Who did Paul believe Jesus to be?

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

Q&A 5. Who did John believe Jesus to be?

"My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality" (James 2:1).

Q&A 6. Who did James believe Jesus to be?

B. The Test of Lordship

"And why call me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46).

Q&A 7. How did Jesus determine if a person was truly obedient to Him as Lord?

Since Jesus is the Lord of glory, He has claims on your life and time. As Lord, He demands obedience to what He has said.

II. WHAT JESUS HAS DONE (HIS WORK).

Although created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26), Adam and Eve sinned against God in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:8-6). Thus mankind was plunged into rebellion against God (Genesis 6:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 5:12). This sin and rebellion produced spiritual death throughout the whole human race (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1-3). Yet God in His great mercy, even in the Garden, promised to send a Savior for all who would repent and trust Him (Genesis 3:15; John 3:16). Now, by His death on the cross Jesus Christ has crushed the serpent's head and broken the power of sin over all those who place their trust in Christ for salvation (1 Peter 3:18).

This section will focus on the death of Jesus Christ and its meaning for us.

A. Jesus' Death On The Cross Crushed Satan's Head, So Satan Can't Crush Your's.

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

Q&A 8. According to this verse and in your own words, what is one reason why Jesus came?

Q&A 9. According to this same verse, what is man's spiritual condition outside of being in right relationship with God through Christ?

"And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin" (1 John 3:5).

Q&A 10. What is a reason, according to this verse, why Jesus came?

Q&A 11. What is another reason, according to 1 John 3:5, why Jesus came?

“But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed” (Isa. 53:5).

Q&A 12. In this verse Isaiah lists four things Jesus did for us on the cross. They are:

C. What Exactly Happened at the Cross?

Atonement is defined as "the reconciliation of God and man by the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ." It could be said "**atonement**" means "at-one-ment." Jesus death brought God and man back together (see 2 Corinthians 5:19-21).

"God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:19-21).

Q&A 13. According to 2 Corinthians 5:19, what happened between God and man through the death of Christ?

Q&A 14. According to 2 Corinthians 5:20, what title has God placed upon you as you represent Him in the world?

D. The Greatest Exchange of All

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:6).

"For He (God) made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." [2 Corinthians 5:21]. Now that's imputation.

Q&A 15. According to Isaiah 53:6, what was placed from us onto Christ?

Q&A 16. According to 2 Corinthians 5:21, what was placed from Christ's account to your account spiritually?

III. A NEW AND BETTER COVENANT

A covenant is a promise of faithfulness. Several times throughout the Bible, God entered into a special covenant relationship. For instance, God entered into personal covenants with specific promises to Abraham and David. Our Bible is divided into two sections described as the Old Testament (or Old Covenant) and the New Testament (or New Covenant).

God promised that under the New (and superior) Covenant He would write His will, not on tablets of stone, but on the heart. **"But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people"** [Jeremiah 31:33].

When we are truly born again we enter into a covenant with God. He promises to be ever faithful to us, we promise to be ever faithful to Him. We give Him our lives, and I believe that He gives us His senses. We give him our natural senses and He gives us His spiritual senses. I believe we can have His sight, His touch, His tastes, His hearing, His ability to smell. **"Taste and see that the Lord is good."** This is the greatest exchange in the universe! We give Him our sin and receive His righteousness. We give Him our sorrow and receive His joy. All that we need is now ours, because by blood covenant, we have become heirs to all His inexhaustible wealth.

This wonderful New Covenant was described by the writer of the book of Hebrews as a "better" covenant [see Hebrews 7:22]. Now, Jesus Christ actually lives inside of us (when we are born again), giving us both the desire and the power to do God's will – His direct will – as we walk in close relationship with Him. **"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure"** [Philippians 2:13]. The agency of this New Covenant is the blood of Jesus Christ [See Luke 22:20].

Q&A 17. Can you give a clear a definition of the word Covenant?

Because we have entered into a covenant with a faithful God, we can be faithful in the other covenant relationships of life: our covenant of faithfulness to our husband or wife, and our covenant of faithfulness to fellow believers. (For more on Covenants see Lesson 7).

IV. JESUS CHRIST MERITS BEING ACKNOWLEDGED AS LORD

- A. The Lordship of Christ was sealed by His resurrection. Jesus' resurrection from the dead was God's seal of approval on the ministry of Christ. Through His resurrection, Jesus claims Lordship over all people. Romans 1:4, says that Jesus was **“declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.”**

One day all people will acknowledge that Jesus is Lord, but only those who bow to His lordship now are promised eternal life with Him then.

“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:9-11).

- B. Jesus is Lord because He has purchased us: **“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living”** (Romans 14:9).

Q&A 18. According to this verse, why did Jesus die and rise again?

“Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead” (Acts 17:30,31).

Q&A 19. In verse 31, what assurance has God given that all people will one day stand before Jesus as their Judge and Lord?

“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood” (Acts 20:28).

Q&A 20. According to Acts 20:28, with what element have we been purchased?

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” (Ephesians 1:7).

Q&A 21. According to Ephesians 1:7, how have we been redeemed?

The word “redeemed” means *to buy back*. Jesus has bought us back from the power of the devil. We now belong to our original Owner. Since we have been purchased by Christ, we now belong to Him; we are His servants and He is our Lord.

V. THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST IS NO HALF HEARTED COMMITMENT

Suppose you purchased a new midsize car and paid the full price for it in cash. You shook hands with the dealer as he had one of his lot workers go retrieve the car from the detailing garage. You signed all the contracts and there you are—you're standing there waiting on this guy to pull up in your brand new car.

Then after some minutes here he comes. That lot worker shows up with a large box of mechanical parts for a midsize car. At this point, the dealer gets involved and really chews him out right in front of you, and then the lot worker says to you, *"Oh sorry, I guess I wasn't really paying attention."* So in a flash, he disappears again and some minutes latter, that smiley-faced lot guy returns driving a compact car this time. Man, I know what you would probably tell him, *"Hey man, this wasn't part of the deal. I bought the midsize, and I mean the whole car. I paid the full price and I expect the full product!"*

In the same way, Jesus Christ has paid the full price for you and he is entitled to have ownership of the full product. Every area of our lives; not just some of the areas must be His and then remain under His control. He doesn't want any half-baked-potato of a commitment!

There's no room for any misrepresentation in His service. Lordship is a serious matter, because the Lord wants all to come into a righteous relationship with Him. He wants to make sure that the world has a clear picture and pure witness of the Father.

To reiterate, read about how it took two attempts for King David to bring the Ark of the Covenant up to Jerusalem. What is the lesson for us? It's imperative to do the will of God His way and in His timing.

"Then David and all Israel played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets. And when they came to Chidon's threshing floor, Uzza put out his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled. Then the anger of the Lord was aroused against Uzza, and He struck him because he put his hand to the ark; and he died there before the God."

"Then David said, 'No one may carry the ark of God but the Levites, for the Lord has chosen them to carry the ark of God and to minister before Him forever.'"

"For because you did not do it the first time, the Lord our God broke out against us, because we did not consult Him about the proper order" (1 Chronicles 13:8-10; plus 15:2-15).

The Bible says **"Their heart is divided; now they are held guilty. He will break down their altars; He will ruin their sacred pillars." (Hosea 10:2).**

"Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!" (Psalm 119:2).

God understands our needs: physical, financial, emotional, and spiritual needs. As we yield to His control He has promised to supply all our needs.

"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus"
(Philippians 4:19).

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).

Q&A 22. If we seek first the kingdom of God (God's rule) in our lives, what percentage of the things we need has God promised to give to us?

Q&A 23. God has always desired a holy people for His own possession. Looking at Ephesians 5:25-32, to what does God compare this wonderful relationship between Jesus and His Church?

Q&A 24. Describe in the best way you know how, this special love relationship under His "Lordship," (see Isaiah 62:4-5).

Q&A 25. When Israel went astray from her covenant with God, what was she likened to? (see Hosea 9:1; 4:12).

“Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God” (James 4:4).

Q&A 26. As you meditate on this verse, what three things does James have to say about those who ignore Christ's Lordship and treasure their friendship with the world?

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him” (1 John 2:15).

Q&A 27. What does John have to say about those who love the ways of the world more than Christ?

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's enemies will be those of his own household. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me” (Matthew 10:34-37).

Q&A 28. What will the Lordship of Christ bring?

REMEMBER GOD STANDS READY TO TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LIFE THAT IS FULLY YIELDED TO HIM.

NOW RESPOND TO GOD'S TRUTH

The claims of Jesus Christ upon your life demand a response on your part. In light of the truths given in this lesson, two questions must be answered.

- By this time, have you repented of your sins and received Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?

_____Yes

_____No

If the answer is no, then turn from your sins. By faith expressed through prayer, come to Jesus Christ right now.

In the space below, please briefly explain your decision and experience. Tell how you know that you have eternal life:

- Is Jesus Christ Lord over every area of your life right now? Have you humbled yourself before His loving authority, by voluntarily subjecting your will to His?

_____Yes

_____No

In the space provided below and on the next page, please briefly explain how you know that Jesus Christ is in charge over every area of your life:

Salvation has nothing to do with feeling and everything to do with fact—the facts in His Word. If the answer to the last question is no, surrender right now those areas of your life to Him where you have not trusted Him or you've resisted His Lordship. Get real honest with Him about your fears and then make the decision to trust Him in spite of your feelings. God will forgive, cleanse and give you new faith in these areas, because His Word promises you:

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9).