

Who Is Your Lord? Philippians 2:5-11

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

The most important _____ you'll ever answer is this, "Who is your Lord?" Today, we're going to explore what it means to _____ Jesus, "Lord." The New Testament is the _____ measure of Christianity. The true disciples of Jesus Christ _____ in His Words. They seek to _____ the Lord, not the world. They take their _____ seriously.

Read Matthew 16:13-17.

What you decide about Jesus is crucial to your _____ well-being. Ultimately, you have to _____ for yourself what you believe. You cannot _____ the Lord Jesus because one day you will come face to face with Him. Each one will face _____. Can you _____ Jesus and say what Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"? To say Jesus is the Christ is to recognize Him as the _____ Messiah, the One who fulfilled prophecy and set up His _____ in the first century that would last forever. To say Jesus is the Son of God is to recognize His Divine _____. Do you believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Are you willing to make Him _____ of your life?

Our reading today comes from Paul's letter to the church at Philippi, Philippians 2:5-11.

Read what the apostle Peter told the household of Cornelius in Acts 10:38-43.

God anointed _____ as the King of kings and the Lord of lords. He will _____ us all on the last day. The Lord Jesus said, "He who _____ Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day" (John 12:48). We will not be judged by what people think, by what councils vote, or by opinion polls. We will be judged by the Words Jesus _____, Words that are found in the New Testament.

Since he is our _____ and our _____, we must recognize our accountability before Him. The apostle Paul told the Athenians, "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should _____, because He has fixed a day in which He will _____ the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished _____ to all men by raising Him from the dead" (Acts 17:30-31). You can be sure that one day you will _____ before the Lord Jesus in judgment. God will hold you and me accountable for our _____.

We're accountable for our _____ toward other people. The Lord Jesus said, "You have heard that the ancients were told, 'You shall not commit murder' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.' But I say to you that everyone who is _____ with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' [that is, Raca, "empty-headed"] shall be guilty before the supreme court; and

whoever shall say, 'You fool,' [that is, you moron] shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell" (Matthew 5:21-22). God knows all that happens in our _____.

We're accountable even for our _____. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 5:27-29, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery'; but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell." When people _____ immoral thoughts, they sin against their spouses and they sin against God.

We're also accountable for our _____. The Lord Jesus said, "For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. The good man brings out of *his* good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of *his* evil treasure what is evil. But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the Day of Judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned" (Matthew 12:34-37).

We are accountable for our _____. Second Corinthians 5:10 says, "For we must all _____ before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." God's Word further says, "He will render to each one according to his _____: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal _____; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does _____, the Jew first and also the Greek, but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does _____, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality" (Romans 2:6-11).

More than that, we're accountable to Jesus whether we _____ it or not, whether we acknowledge it or not, or whether we _____ with it or not. Jesus, our Creator, who died to _____ us from sin, is also our Lord. Not only do we confess Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, we also confess Him as our Lord. On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit proclaimed through Peter and the apostles to all the Jews that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified (Acts 2:36). God has made Jesus to be your Lord and mine.

The word "Lord" indicates _____ crucial concepts. First, to call Jesus "Lord" means He is divine, that is, He is deity; He is _____. The word "Lord" is often spelled with all capital letters in the Old Testament. "Lord" is the English word that is used to translate the Hebrew word "Yahweh." This is the word the Lord God used to identify Himself to _____ at the burning bush.

In Exodus chapter three, God called Moses to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. Moses was reluctant and he offered several _____ to God as to why he shouldn't lead them. At one point Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of

Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?’ God said to Moses, ‘I am who I am.’ And he said, ‘Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I am has sent me to you’’ (Exodus 3:13-14). The word in Hebrew “I am who I am” translates into Greek as “kurios” and into English as “LORD.”

When the Holy Spirit, through Peter, proclaimed Jesus as Lord on Pentecost, he was speaking _____ of the Divinity of Jesus Christ. Philippians 2:6, which we read earlier, says Jesus also existed in the _____ of God. **Read Philippians 2:5-11 again.**

Jesus has always existed in the form of God, but He emptied himself and took the form of a _____, being fashioned as a man. In humility, He _____ His father by dying on a cruel cross. Because Jesus suffered and died for us, God exalted Him, gave Him a name above all names, and demands that at the name of Jesus, every knee will _____ and every tongue will confess Jesus Christ is Lord! This type of worship is not for men, but for deity, for God.

Second, to call Jesus “Lord” means you have decided that you will _____ Him. He is your _____, and you are his _____. The word “Lord” in the Bible often refers to the one who _____ slaves. When we became Christians, we became the _____ of Jesus Christ. A master owns his slaves and has the right to make decisions governing the _____ of his slaves, decisions the slaves cannot stop or change. You may not always understand His decisions, but you can always _____ that He will act for your best interests.

We are all _____ to someone or something. Romans 6:16 says, “Do you not know that if you _____ yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, *that* you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?” Some folks serve _____. They think sin will bring them happiness; and instead, it brings them a lot of misery; it fills their lives with all kinds of ruin and problems; and it makes them a _____. Sin fills them with _____ and it ruins their hearts and their lives. Hebrews 3:12-13 warns Christians, “Take care, brothers, lest there be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving _____, leading you to fall away from the living God. But _____ one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”

What we choose in this life will affect our _____ destiny. Romans 8:12-13 says, “So then, brothers, we are _____, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will _____, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will _____.” Following sin and the flesh will lead only to many _____ in this life and separation from God in the life to come. Galatians 6:7-8 says, “Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one _____, that will he also _____. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”

That is why repentance is so vital, so important! If we put to death the deeds of the body, we can live spiritually with God; but if we continue in sin, we can lose our _____. Isn't it

_____ to be the servant of One who loves and cares for us? Some enslave themselves to their lusts and pleasures, which only last for a time and later _____ them. Some become the servants of the _____, who uses them with cruel, false promises. The devil is never your friend; no matter what he may _____ you. If you choose to follow him, he will _____ you where you never want to go. When you take Jesus as Lord, you give yourself to the only One who will _____ love and take care of you. Jesus is he only one who can _____ you.

The question is not whether the Lord Jesus will be a good and kind master; oh, He will! The question is whether you will be a good and obedient _____. Obedience is not always natural to us; we have to _____ it. The Bible says of Jesus, "Although He was a Son, He _____ obedience from the things which He suffered. And having been made perfect, He became to all those who _____ Him the source of eternal salvation" (Hebrews 5:8-9). If we are to _____ our Lord, we must learn to be obedient to His will. Obedience is how we _____ Him our faith and our love. Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords, but you must _____ whether you will bow before Him now in this life or whether you will bow before Him when He comes again. But be sure of this, one day every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord to the glory of God our Father.

Someone has well said, "If Jesus isn't Lord in every aspect of our lives, He isn't our Lord at _____. If Jesus isn't Lord _____ day, He isn't Lord _____ day." Jesus doesn't want half-hearted followers, fair-weather friends, or convenient Christians. He expects us to _____ ourselves, to take up our crosses daily, and to _____ Him. He wants us to present our bodies a living and holy _____, acceptable to God. God wants us to live by _____ in the One who loves us and gave Himself for us. God wants you to _____ Him with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.

Sadly, many have become Christians in _____ only. They say they believe but you couldn't tell it from the words they use or the lives they lead. First John 2:3-6 says, "And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we _____ his commandments. Whoever says 'I know him' but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the _____ way in which He walked." Are you walking like Christ or like someone who simply _____ to know Him?

We must _____ His Words, revealed in the New Testament. We must _____ Jesus Christ is the Lord, the Son of the living God. We trust what the Lord says, because we trust Him. In trust and love, we turn from rebellion and sin and turn to the Lord. So, whatever he asks, we're ready to do because we love Him—that's _____. Then upon the confession of our faith, we're _____. That is when He will wash away every sin. That is when He'll add us to His family, the _____. That is when He will save us and we'll become a child of God. Oh, won't you obey the Lord today?