

Jesus: Lord of My Life

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Does Jesus want to make your life miserable? That is what many Christians must think. Either that or we would give Jesus total Lordship of our lives.

Can you say that Jesus, the Messiah, has free and complete reign in your life? Is He alone Lord? Does He sit on the throne of your heart alone ... or does He share this place with you? Who lives in you? This is a question we must all consider honestly. Many say, as I did, "Yes, of course Jesus lives in me. I asked Him into my heart when I heard Him knocking at the door. He is even first on the throne. He lives in me." Paul says,

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal. 2:20).

"I" have been crucified with Christ and "I" no longer live, but "Christ" lives in me. When we can understand this, say this, and live this, we will experience unimaginable freedom.

So what does this mean? We can compare it to the parable when Jesus was sleeping in the boat with His disciples and the terrible storm came and they all began to panic, worry and cry out. If Jesus can sleep through the storms without worrying, we certainly can. Or do we think God would have allowed Jesus to drown?! Jesus is in our boat! "Christ lives in me". If He truly lives in me, do I honestly think God would allow some storm to capsize Jesus' boat? We then have two choices as to what we can do in the midst of a storm in our life that we cannot control. We can panic and worry as the disciples did, not making matters better. Or we can sit back and take a nap as Jesus did, trusting the Father to look out for our best interests. Which option offers us peace? (Matt. 6:27).

Back to the question of does Jesus live in you alone, or does He share the house with you? Jesus stands at the door and knocks, option one: don't let Him in; option two: let him in, but I am still the owner of the house; option three: let Him in and give Him first place; option four: let Him in and give Him complete ownership. Which option have you chosen? Which option will you choose today?

It is obvious due to much strife in churches, seeing few people walking in peace and seeing few Christians committed to living in obedience of His Word, that we can say that few Christians have chosen option four: let Him come in and have complete ownership. There are not many who have chosen the complete freedom God offers us in Christ. Only God's spirit can teach us and reveal this freedom to us in a way that we can really understand the all encompassing nature of it. But for God to reveal it to us, we must desire it and seek it.

Why do few people choose option number four? Why are we afraid of giving Jesus total ownership of our lives? Why do we hesitate to say, "Lord, it is not I who live but YOU in me."? Why do we fail to say, "Lord, I am yours. How do you want me to serve you?" *Do we honestly think that Jesus wants to make our lives miserable???* Not only does He want to what is best for us, but He knows what is best for us. Do we think that once we give Jesus total reign God will give us all the dirty work that He doesn't like to do? God *already* gave Jesus the dirty work - so we don't have to worry!

If your child came to you and said, "Dad, I trust you and know you love me. I entrust my life completely to you. What do you want me to do? I'll do whatever you say." How many of you would send him out in the rain without an umbrella? Or how many would send him off amidst the cruelty of the world without proper protection? How many would say, "Finally? Go scrub the toilet, wash the car, shine my shoes, etc.!"? A truly loving and trustworthy parent would not throw all the dirty work on their child, nor would they not consider where their child's heart is when sending him to do a task. We can trust and obey because God is a Father of love. He not only loves us, but He loves His Son who now lives in us.

When we give Jesus our "house", it is no longer ours. It is *His* responsibility. We can sit back and nap through the storms. We can trust Him that the house will not be destroyed. He most certainly is a better master than we could ever hope to be. Or do we think otherwise?

Experience the true freedom we have in Christ. Get out of the house!

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