

Lordship Sanctification {Teacher <40-50 minutes>.}

{[HOOK]. <10 minutes>.}

I. Introduction.

- A. After reading about [Lordship Salvation](#), are you convinced that a person only must receive Jesus by faith (and not do, promise, or commit to serve Christ) in order to be eternally saved? {Yes.}
- B. What convinces you most that you are "**saved by grace through faith**" alone, and not plus anything else? {God's written promise—only believe to receive the gift of eternal life (**Eph. 2:8-9; John 3:15-16, 18, 36; 6:40, 47; Acts 16:31; Tit. 3:5-6...**). **Rom. 12:1-2** begs Christians (already eternally saved, that had not made a commitment) to serve Christ, as their "**reasonable service**" so "**that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**" Also, because before Christ gives "**a new heart**" (**Eze. 11:19; 18:31; 36:26**), makes "**a new creature**" (**2Co. 5:17**), gives the power of "**the Spirit that dwelleth in us**" (**John 14:17; Rom. 8:11; 1Co. 3:16; James 4:5; 1Jo. 3:24**) gives a desire to and ability to live above sin, before we get "**the whole armor of God**" (**Eph. 6:11-18**) to stand against the spiritual forces, it is impossible to stand against the world, our own flesh, and the Devil serving and putting God's will above own selfish desires. God's commands are always accompanied by His enablement.}
- C. Are you convinced a true believer should make Christ "Lord of their life?" Why? {Yes, of course. It is their "**reasonable service.**" It is the only way to experience and fulfill our purpose His design. Jesus came to eternally "**seek and to save**" (**Luke 19:10**), and so we "**might have life**" "**more abundantly**" (**John 10:10**) before heaven.}
- D. Have you trusted Christ as your eternal Savior? {Yes, awesome.}
- E. Have you dedicated your life in service to God? {Yes, praise God.}

{[OBSERVATION / INTERPRETATION]. <15-20 minutes>.}

II. Scripture. {Let's examine the extent of "Christ as Lord of your life."}

- A. The Parable of the Sower (**Mat. 13:1-9, 18-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15**). {We want to focus on those who received God's Word and obeyed Him, which results in fruitfulness.}
 1. **Mat. 13:8, 23**—"8-But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. 23-But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the Word, and understandeth It; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." {Think about each saved person's good heart, and why some bear or produce almost 1/3rd, some almost 2/3rds, and others a 100-fold fruitful.}

2. **Mark 4:8, 20**—"8-And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some a hundred. 20-And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the Word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred." {Again, ponder why good hearts have fluctuating fruitfulness.}
 3. **Luke 8:8, 15**—"8-And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bear fruit a hundredfold. And when He had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. 15-But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the Word, keep It, and bring forth fruit with patience." {Here, Jesus says these good hearts are "honest," "keep" God's Word in memory, retain, or possess (Gr:katecho) It, and do it all "with patience" (the best fruit takes time to mature; the best is not the first crop of fruit).}
- B. Don't just be "**in Christ**" (saved), but "**abide in**" Christ (sanctified).
{This is the only way to bear "**much fruit**."}
1. **John 15:4-5, 8**—"4-**Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me.** 5-I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that **abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.** 8-**Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples.**" {We cannot bear spiritual fruit without submitting to the Lordship of Christ, remaining or "**abiding in**" fellowship with Christ as His disciple, unless we "**live**" or "**walk in the Spirit**" (**Gal. 5:16, 25**).}
 2. **Rom. 8:1-2**—"1-There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are **in Christ** Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 2-For the law of the Spirit of life **in Christ** Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." {We get the indwelling Spirit when saved, and the Spirit places us "**in Christ**." When we walk in or "**after the Spirit**" we are abiding in Christ, in the Spirit, and not following our flesh.}

{[UNDERSTANDING / APPLICATION]. <15-20 minutes>.}

III. Application. {Be honest about Christ's Lordship in your life.}

- A. Are you convinced a true believer will commit to the "Lordship of Christ" (all at once or gradually over time)? {Yes. You get eternally saved first, then begin a continuous Lordship/sanctification process that continues until ultimate glorification in heaven. I do not believe in "Lordship Salvation," but am convinced "Lordship Sanctification" will occur (at different speeds and degrees) in the life of every true

believer. Spiritual ups and fleshly downs become more ups than downs over time in every believer. The spiritual trajectory of a true believer will always be up, even if only slightly. The Spirit progressively enlightens believers of sins as they are ready to embrace the Spirit of Christ and holiness in their life.}

- B. Can a true Christian remain a “baby” Christian much longer than they should (cf. **1Co. 3:1; Heb. 5:11-14**), why? *{Unfortunately, yes. An older baby is holding on to old habits, not learning, giving into the world, their flesh, the Devil. They do not eat right/feed their heart and mind with God’s Word—garbage in, garbage out. They do not hang around/fellowship enough with Christians, love and obey God, quit crying, get potty-trained, grow up, mature, and be fruitful.}*
- C. Is Christ 100% “Lord of your life?” If not, why? *{Yes. When Christ is lowered in priority, I’ve always put my will, my desires, above what He says is best. I think I know best, or better than God. I do not believe He loves me most and knows what will make me the most joyful.}*
- D. How do you know what percentage of your life is committed to Christ? *{Your heart, mind, and choice now. Frequency of sin; any unconfessed sin; focus, goals, or primary thoughts? Are you holding back any area of your life (e.g. devotions, diet, speech, service, submission, witnessing, giving...)? The rate of falling into a besetting sin or a frequent sin (laziness, gossip, pornography, gluttony, pride, etc.)?}*
- E. Think about the percentage of your life you may be holding back. Bow your head and silently confess any known sin and talk to God about His desires, your desires, and commitment. Make a new commitment. *{Oh Lord, forgive me for taking back that which is reasonable, that which I know you know best what is best for me. Please reveal any area not fully submitted to You. Please create in me a clean and willing heart to follow you. Please give me your Spirit and strength to lovingly follow you with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength. Please take all of me, all my life, and use it for your pleasure and glory. I trust you. Please help me to give into your Spirit’s leading and not my fleshly weaknesses, old habits, and desires. Help me please Lord...}*

Additional Study: For other lessons associated with Lordship Sanctification, see Bible studies on [Dedicating Your Life](#), also [Service](#), and [Spiritual Life](#). These emphasize the importance of choosing to yield to “**be filled**” (**Eph. 5:18**), so you can “**walk**” (**Rom. 8:1, 4; Gal. 5:16, 25**), and not “**grieve**” (**Eph. 4:30**) the Holy Spirit’s sanctifying work in the life of every believer.