

Jesus Is Lord of _____

At a recent conference I heard a story about a successful businessman who attended a local congregation. He, along with some other businessmen, was asked to contribute to a conservative cause. He responded, ***“I am a Christian, and I am a businessman, but I am not a Christian businessman.”*** Somewhere he learned to compartmentalize his life into places where he would invite Jesus and places where he would not.

We all have many compartments to our lives. For example, we have a family compartment. We have a work compartment. We even have a church compartment. But the question we must ask is, “Which of these compartments is Jesus NOT the Lord over?”

When God says in **Deuteronomy 6** that we are to love Him with all of our hearts, soul, and might, what does that leave out? Which area of our lives do we have the biblical right to exclude God? Following God is bigger than fulfilling a Sunday morning obligation so that we can live like the world on Monday. Consider these verses:

1 Corinthians 10:31(ESV)

³¹ So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV)

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Romans 12:1-2 (ESV)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

How much wiggle room does God give us? He gives us choice as to whether we will serve Him or not and even as to how much we will serve Him. He wants all of our hearts, souls, and might because that is what He has given to us. Notice **Romans 8:32** (KJV):

³² He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

What did He hold back from us? What will He hold back from us? Nothing! He gives us all that we need. In turn He wants us to fully serve Him. It is my conviction that God does not request anything from us that He Himself has not already done.

A few years ago George Barna did a survey of churches. He found that 8% practiced a biblical worldview. That is, the members of those churches run everything they do through the matrix of scripture. If the Bible authorizes a certain activity, they are justified in participating within it. If not, they do not. This means that 92% of churches in that survey have another standard by which they live and justify their actions. By 2020 Barna found that those practicing a biblical worldview dropped to 6%.

It is devastating to think that our Founders came to America and eventually established a country based on biblical principles only for these later generations to have let that foundation go. The Bible gives us all we need to live now and in eternity. **2 Peter 1:3** (ESV) reads:

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,

Paul declares in **2 Timothy 3:16-17** (ESV):

¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

These passages aren't just for preachers. They are for every person of God. The Lord has supplied us with everything we need to have success in every part of our lives. There is a personal application; a family application; a church application; and a civic/political application. Scripture outlines each of these.

Fill in the blank, Jesus is Lord over _____. (Is that one compartment of your life? A few? All?)

Keep the Light of Jesus' Lordship Burning!