

ABSOLUTE LORDSHIP!

Phil. 2:9-11 Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, (10) that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, (11) and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Divine Sovereignty of the God of the Bible:

- ❖ The sovereignty of God may be concisely summed up as **Absolute Lordship**. Sovereignty is lordship, lordship is ownership, and ownership is control.
 - ✧ He is sovereign because He is the absolute and sole Ruler of the universe!
 - ✧ He is Lord because He alone is “in charge” of everything and everybody.
 - ✧ He is owner because He is creator.
 - ✧ He controls all things through His decision, causation, command, permission, prevention and finally judgment. (Adapted from Jack Cottrell’s book, “God the Ruler”).

- ❖ The basic reason why women and men do not like the doctrine of God's sovereignty is that they do not want a sovereign God.
 - ✧ They wish to be autonomous, totally independent.
 - ✧ Autonomy began in the garden as seen in **Gen 3:5** *"For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*
 - It seems that they did not want a Sovereign God; they did not want an Absolute Lord over them. And so the great deception began and is currently going on this very moment. They wanted independence from God Himself and, though some phrase it differently, some want to be “captain of their own destiny” charting their own course through life, isolated from anyone’s guidance or authority.

- ❖ Jesus must be more than simply a confessed Lord, He must be an obeyed Lord. If He is Absolute Lord, then His word which is His will must be acted out. **Matt. 7:21-23** *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. (22) 'Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' (23) 'And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'*
 - ✧ Look at verse 21 above for evidence of acting out the will of God. Jesus is not rebuking the “many” for prophesying or driving out demons or even performing miracles. What He is chastising them for is not doing the will of His Father.
 - ✧ They were never known by Jesus because they never really knew Him and were living lawless (*anomia*) lives.
 - They lived outside the law because they never knew the Absolute Lawgiver.
 - Performance and production are required rather than profession and pious prayers.

- ❖ They really had no heart for God. **Rom 10:9-10** *“that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; (10) for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.”*
 - ✧ The resurrection of Jesus solidified the very fact of His Absolute Lordship.
 - ✧ See **John 20:21-28**. Here Thomas sees the risen Absolute Lord, perhaps for the first time, and not just the good teacher from Nazareth. He says, after witnessing the bodily resurrection, “my Lord and my God”.

- ✧ A further look at **Acts 2:36-38** reveals this concept also. *"Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified."* (37) *Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"* (38) *And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."* There appears to be little heart piercing now-a-days.
- ✧ Paul like Thomas likens Jesus as "my" Lord. **Phil. 3:8** *"More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ"*.
- ✧ Paul extends this proposition to the entire body of Christ. **1 Tim. 1:12** *"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service;"*
- ✧ OUR Lord and MY Lord are used in the New Testament, consistently, but never YOUR Lord. The entire Christian community is "His", and He is its Absolute Lord.

Just What is Jesus Absolute Lord of?

1. He is Absolute Lord of Love.

John 15:12-13 "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. (13) "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

Rom 8:35-39 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (36) Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED." (37) But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. (38) For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, (39) nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Eph 3:19 and *[that you may come]* to know *[practically, through personal experience]* the love of Christ which far surpasses *[mere]* knowledge *[without experience]*, that you may be filled up *[throughout your being]* to all the fullness of God *[so that you may have the richest experience of God's presence in your lives, completely filled and flooded with God Himself]*. {AMP}

2. He is Absolute Lord of His Living Oracles (His word).

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

Matt. 5:28-48 (See 5:21, 27, 31, 33, 38, 43 - "but I say to you")

John 12:47-48 "And if anyone hears My sayings, and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. (48) "He who rejects 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.

1 John 1:1-2 What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of Life-- (2) and the life was manifested, and we have seen and bear witness and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- Notice John does not say Who but What or That Which (KJV). These are neuter pronouns, not masculine ones. The person of Jesus (Logos) is not the focus here but the LIFE from the Word demonstrated and brought forth or manifested. Notice "the Word of Life", "Life", and "Eternal Life.

3. He is Absolute Lord of Life.

John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. He gave life to His creation. What ever truly lives does so because sin has never permanently found a place in it. Holiness yields life but sin produces death.

John 14:6 Jesus *said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me. Without the WAY there is no going; Without the TRUTH there is no knowing; Without the LIFE there is no living.

John 10:10 "The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have *it* abundantly (overflowing).

Col 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. When Christ comes again we shall have eternal life, but now His life dominates our very life.

4. He is Absolute Lord of the Light.

John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The WORD becomes LIGHT through the medium of LIFE.

John 1:9 There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. True represents real, genuine, perfect and substantial as opposed to false which means fanciful, shadowy and counterfeit.

John 9:5 "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." While he was in the world, through His incarnation, He showed us "He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature..."

Heb 1:3

John 3:19 "And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their deeds were evil. This word LOVE comes from *agapa* love, to think the best and do the best for the object loved. (**2 Cor. 4:4** in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God; **1 Thess 5:5** for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness.)

5. He is Absolute Lord of the Labor.

Matt 9:38 "Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

6. He is Absolute Lord of the Last Judgment.

John 5:22-30

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

SOVEREIGN, SUPREME, PREEMINENT, MONARCH, MAJESTY.

Mat 28:18 Jesus came up and said to them, "All authority (all power of absolute rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. (AMP)

Col 1:18 He is also the head [*the life-source and leader*] of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will occupy the first place [*He will stand supreme and be preeminent*] in everything. (AMP)

Rev 19:16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

Deut. 10:17 "For the LORD your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality, nor take a bribe.