

Why Call Me “Lord?”

Luke 6:46

Oct. 18, 2009 am

Introduction:

1. Good morning. It is time now to open our Bibles. I would like to take us to the book of Luke, in chapter six. Lk. 6:46-49. If you will open to that location in your Bible, you'll be ready for our time together.

- A. We welcome each of you to Laurel Heights, and invite you to come back later today, at 5 pm.
- B. Tune in to our radio program on KURV, 710 am – 9 am every Sunday.
- C. Our website is LHMCALLEN.ORG.
- D. Sermons preached from the pulpit here – can be heard on our website.
- E. In all these efforts, our purpose is – preaching and teaching from the text of Scripture.

2. The text for this study: **Lk. 6:46-49.**

- A. Jesus Christ was the Master Teacher.
- B. He knew perfectly how to present the truth of God.

- C. His illustrations were well suited to His audiences; His discourses on various moral subjects were worded with beauty and challenge; His appeals to praise and honor God were given in wonderful terms, conveying eternal truth to the hearts of those who wanted to do right.
- D. Jesus Christ was and is, the Master Teacher.

3. Part of His genius as a teacher was – His wise use of questions.

- A. He wanted people to think.
- B. He wanted people to act, but before you can get people to act – you must get them to think; to learn; to change their will.
- C. So in this passage, Jesus posed this question:
WHY?

4. For His original audience, and for us today, here is the question: **Why do you call me, “Lord, Lord,” and yet – you “do not do the things which I say?”**

- A. I want us – here this morning – to understand this.
- B. And I want us to take what we learn from this passage – into our daily lives.

5. **Let’s consider – The Speaker, The Term, and The Obligation, here in Luke 6:46.**

Body:

I. **The Speaker Is Jesus Christ!**

- A. Many people today talk about Jesus Christ, and many speak favorably of Him – but often the context is – *He is one of many wise teachers.*
1. On Television programs like Oprah, motivational speakers and spiritual leaders are interviewed and celebrated.
 2. Media Journalist bring in spiritual consults like Deepak Chopra.
 3. Barnes and Nobles has a whole section of authors like these – who claim to have the secret, who offer cleverly marketed slogans and techniques they claim will enhance your spiritual essence, make you more successful, and bring into your life good people and good income.
 4. And people dive into all this.
 5. It is popular, attractive – and a huge economic empire has been built, around these people who claim to be spiritual leaders.
 6. **Many will speak of Jesus Christ, as just one among many such leaders.**

B. Here's what Christians believe → **There is nobody like Jesus Christ!**

1. No one ever came into the world like Jesus: "...when the fullness of the times had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law," (Gal. 4:4); Matthew and Luke report, He was born to a virgin, just as Isaiah prophesied.
2. No one ever lived as Jesus lived: He "...knew no sin," and He was "in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin," (2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15).
3. No one ever claimed what He claimed, accompanied by the evidence He gave: "I am the way, the truth and the life," He said. "...no one comes to the Father except through me," (Jno. 14:6).
4. No one ever taught like He taught; the temple guards said, "Never a man so spake," (Jno. 7:46).
5. No one ever died like He died: "For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly," (Rom. 5:6).
6. And no one ever came back from the dead, as Jesus did; the report that came from the tomb was, "He is not here, but is risen!" (Lk. 24:7).

- C. Comparing the modern spiritual leaders to Jesus Christ – my conclusion is, **THERE IS NO COMPARISON.**
1. There is no one like Jesus Christ.
 2. He is the Only Begotten Son of God, who lived perfected, taught the truth of God, went to the cross for sinners, but was raised from the dead.
 3. This is what we believe about Him.
- D. And He is the one who said this – He is the speaker of these words: “Why do you call me, ‘Lord,’ yet, you do not do the things that I say?”

II. Look closer at what He said, and let me talk to you about **that word “Lord.”** He said, “Why do you call me ‘**Lord,**’ and yet you do not do the things that I say?”

- A. What meaning does the term carry: **Lord?**
- B. There is a very simple definition; the word “Lord” means, **one having authority.**
1. The term was sometimes used in that day – to designate a land owner, a business owner, a military officer or governmental leader.
 2. It simply meant – **one having authority,** therefore – deserving of respect and response.

- C. Let's see how this applies to Jesus Christ, and perhaps another passage will help us: **Matt. 28:18-20.**
1. God, the Father – the Creator – gave to Jesus Christ “all authority.”
 2. Based on that – He sent His men out with the gospel . . . telling them to baptize believers, and then teach them how to live.
- D. If Jesus has “all authority,” conferred upon Him by God, the Creator - -
1. That means what He says is the final word!
 2. I want to make this clear, by excluding those not included:
 - a. Preachers have no authority.
 - b. Elders cannot write religious law.
 - c. Bible teachers can't just make it up.
 - d. Councils and Conferences of religious leaders cannot claim authority.
 - e. The Pope holds no valid place of superiority.

- d. Creeds written by theologians hold no legitimate power.
 3. Christ has “all authority.”
 4. That means – **What He Says Is Final!!**
- E. You know – if we could just get this truth across to people . . . and if people would be open to what the Bible says about the authority of Christ . . .
1. Denominational division and confusion would be defeated.
 2. The control men have over the thoughts and groups of people would vanish.
 3. The spiritual gurus would have to get real jobs...
 4. And we could all just be Christians.
- F. Jesus is Lord – and that’s not just something to say; it means, **He Has All Authority.**

[Let me ask – what should be our response to this truth? Once we become convinced, Jesus Christ is Lord – God gave Him “all authority,” what should we do about that? **We come to this matter here . . .**]

III. **OBLIGATION: Do The Things He Said!**

- A. If I understand who Jesus Christ is . . . and I'm persuaded He is Lord . . . and I call Him Lord, *what's the next step?*
1. Of course it is – **to do what He says.**
 2. Here is something we talk about all the time – here is something the Bible talks about from Genesis through Revelation, **OBEDIENCE.**
 3. Movement from knowledge to practice . . . from faith to the activity of faith.
 4. If you get tired of preacher's talking about this – listen to Jesus talk about it.
- C. And we are back now to His question: **WHY?**
1. Why would you call Him "Lord," without intention to obey Him?
 2. Here are His words: "...why do you call Me 'Lord...', and do not do the things which I say?"
- D. Now I must make that question personal, and you must apply it to yourself.

1. Jesus was not just making a speech because there was an occasion to speak.
2. Luke was not writing this, simply because he had the task of writing.
3. **Behind this, there is God's interests in your soul – you life here, and your life after you leave here.**

E. I'm going to bring up a word we do not like:
Hypocrite!

1. We are careful about how we use this word, and we shouldn't throw it around.
2. It conveys something very negative.
3. The simple definition is – **not practicing what you preach.**
4. Saying one thing – but doing something else.

F. Isn't that what Jesus is talking about?

1. Saying He is Lord.
2. Confessing the truth about who He is, and acknowledging the authority He has . . .
3. **But not living under His authority!**

4. That's exactly what Jesus is talking about!
 5. Do you call Jesus Lord – but you are not really doing what He said??
 6. You need to be deeply concerned about that.
 7. The solution is – not to stop calling Him Lord, but to start living in obedience to Him.
- G. Let's take this to another level . . . let's see what Jesus said after this statement.
1. Back to our text: **Lk. 6:46-49.**
 2. I would like for us to focus, just for a moment – on one word in this passage: “ruin.”
 3. The person who hears what Christ says, and does nothing – can look for ruin.
- H. We do not know what the future holds.
1. There may be some crisis around the corner – you cannot see today.

2. There may well be specific pressures and temptations in the future – you have not faced.
3. In your marriage or family – and in the future of your children, there may be storms **you need to prepare for today . . . storms not in the forecast!!**
 - I. By obeying Christ today – you not only glorify God, honor Christ and live today with spiritual integrity – **you also are building your life on a solid foundation - - against the prospect of future storms.**
 - J. So why would we call Jesus our Lord, and not do what He says . . . knowing what we know?

Conclusion:

1. Each one here today – every one of us need to understand, we must not just casually call ourselves Christians and call Jesus our Lord . . . **unless those claims are accompanied by the evidence of our obedience.**
2. Now – with this challenge to obey – there is a natural thought you may have.
 - A. You may be thinking – *I haven't obeyed the Lord!*
 - B. *I have sinned . . . I've messed up . . . I haven't been faithful!!*

- C. That brings us to the beauty of God's plan for us – **Forgiveness!**
 - 1. Jesus died so we can have it.
 - 2. What's necessary is our response, the activity of our faith.
 - D. For instance, Jesus said (in Mark chapter 16), **he who believes and is baptized shall be saved.**
 - E. And after baptism – if you fall back into the ruin of sin, John says: **If we confess our sins, God is faithful to forgive us.**
3. **Jesus is Lord.**
- A. That's a fact.
 - B. The only question is – **Am I living under His Lordship.**
 - C. If you need to respond to that now . . . we hope you will, while we stand to sing.

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