

Lordship *Lorne Sanny*

I. Lordship: Acts 22:6-10 – “About noon as I came near Damascus, suddenly a bright light from heaven flashed around me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, ‘Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute me?’ ‘Who are you, Lord?’ I asked. ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting,’ he replied. My companions saw the light, but they did not understand the voice of him who was speaking to me. ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ I asked. ‘Get up,’ the Lord said, ‘and go into Damascus. There you will be told all that you have been assigned to do.’ Acts 22:6-10

A. All of Christianity breaks down to the two questions from this passage. And all other questions of life line up under these two. These two questions go together.

1. Who are you Lord?

2. What shall I do Lord?

Example:

A dog runs out onto a football field and everything stops as the officials and players start chasing the dog and thousands of whistles and calls come down from the stands and that dog is very confused because he sees no one dominant person or hears no one dominant voice.

That little dog is like what Jesus said most people are in the world. He said they are harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd.

The world is full of voices calling for our attention from the world of education, philosophy, religion, politics, psychology calling to us, saying “this is the way, walk ye in it” and we are bewildered because there is no one dominant person or no one dominant voice. And we need one.

Let that dominant person be Jesus and let that dominant voice be that of Jesus. And deciding to let Jesus be Lord deep down in your soul makes a permanent difference.

II. Not only do these questions go together in that they focus on Jesus as Lord, but the question “Who are you Lord” leads to the question of “What shall I do Lord?”

Exodus 5:2-3, Pharaoh said “Who is the Lord that I should obey him?”

III. Who are you Lord?

Answering the first question “Who are you Lord” takes a lifetime to answer.

A. Three pictures of the Lord:

1. He is the Lord of creation

John 1:3 - Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Colossians 1:16 - For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

a) A light year is the distance light will travel in a year at 186,000 miles per second (roughly six trillion miles). The closest star to planet earth, with the exception of the sun, is proximus centauri, located four light years away.

b) If you were to get on a commercial airliner and fly to proximus centauri at four light years away, jet airliners go about 500 to 600 miles an hour, it would take you 33 generations to get there.

c) Not anything made was not made by him.

2. He is the Lord of salvation

a) Aren't you grateful God came down and became man so that we can grasp it a little bit?

b) The thing about Jesus that makes it personal is that he is our salvation.

Acts 4:12 – Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

c) The best advertised fact in the world is that Jesus Christ came into the world. Even during the Viet Nam War –which is a Buddhist country—stopped the war for 24 hours during Christmas.

I Peter 2:24 – He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

d) Christ took my sins on his body and my place on the cross.

Luke 2:11 – Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

3. He is the Lord of judgment

John 5:22 – Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son...

a) There has to be a judgment. There is so much in this world that is unfair, there has to be a judgment. And there will be. The date has already been set.

Acts 17:31 – For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead.

Hebrews 4:15 – For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

b) That is beautiful. Christ understands. He can sympathize with us because he was tempted in all points, just as we are. When the Day of Judgment comes, how wonderful is it to know that the judge will be a judge of understanding because he lived for a while among us on this earth. He knows how we feel. There is nothing you and I can ever experience that he did not feel and experience.

IV. “What shall I do Lord?”

A. That is the right question because of who is speaking: the Lord of creation, the Lord of salvation, the Lord of judgment. The final authority.

B. He said why do you call me Lord, but do not do what I say?

1. The vast preponderance of scripture that is associated with “the will of God” is about one thing: do it. Thy will be done.

2. God is not in the business of satisfying curiosity-seekers. He is in the business of revealing his will to those who are surrendered to receive it.

Who are you Lord?

What shall I do Lord? ← that is the right question.

C. The eyes of the Lord are running through this group to find a man or woman whose heart is fully committed to him through whom God almighty can show himself strong.

II Chronicles 16:9 - for the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

1. There aren't many who are “fully committed to him”.

2. Why can't it be you?

Acts 13:22 - After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’

3. Charlie Riggs said “God isn't looking for a man after His own head. He's looking for a man after His own heart.”

4. God isn't hard up for money or ideas. He is short of people after his own heart. Obedient people. People who will say, “What shall I do Lord?” And do it.

Romans 12:2 - do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

D. God is not a killjoy. His will is good, pleasing and perfect. Find out what God wants you to do and do it and what a fantastic adventure life it will be. Not easy, but good, pleasing and perfect.

Ephesians 5:17 - therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

1. We find out the will of God through the (1) Bible and through (2) prayer.
2. The Bible tells us the general will of God of everyone. Through prayer I find out the specific will of God for me.
3. Whenever you feel overwhelmed with problems, that is not from God. God does not overwhelm us. Wait for the prompting of the Holy Spirit. Dawson Trotman said, "Whenever you feel inside 'pull this way,' 'jerk this way,' that is not the voice of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit always leads with a gentle tug in one direction.

V. Application:

A. Every day when you have a quiet time in the word, you can ask "Who are you Lord?" And "What shall I do Lord?"

B. When you are facing a decision in your life, ask the two questions, "Who are you Lord?" And "What shall I do Lord?"