

J.J.

JESUS MY LORD AND MY GOD

INTRODUCTION :

Elections tomorrow. Vote wisely. It is crucial who governs us.

*Proverbs 29: 2 When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice.
But when the wicked are in power, they groan. (NLT)*

I'm not here to tell you who to vote for. But the only one thing I ask before you vote is to pray to the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom on who to vote for.

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

At the end of the day, what's more important is no matter who wins, it is God who has established that authority.

Romans 13:1 Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God.

This is the reason why we're pausing this Sunday our study on the Red Sea because it's crucial for us to ask ourselves, who governs our lives.

It is important to establish who governs your life?

There are many things that can govern your life.

- 1. Self**
- 2. Others (whether our friends, our wife, our husband, our children, a boyfriend or girlfriend, your mother or your father)**

This is the reason why our Lord said that we cannot follow Him, if self or others govern our life.

Luke 14:26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.

3. God called Mammon

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

This is going to be a simple sermon but it's crucial

It is very important who governs our life because that will determine it's course. As Christians, I don't have to tell you who needs to govern our lives...that's obvious. IT'S OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Every morning when, I wake up, the first thing that comes out of my mouth, “Jesus, my Lord and my God.” But what does it really mean to say that Jesus is my Lord and my God.

(Obviously, this didn’t come from me)

John 20: 24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

28 Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

PRAY

If you remember the story of one of Jesus Christ’s disciples named Thomas, he was so sad that Jesus died. But the other disciples told him that Jesus rose from the dead and they saw Him. He answered saying, unless

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A week later, while the disciples were gathering and Thomas was there, our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to them and said, “Peace” be with you and asked Thomas to insert his fingers into his side. And that’s the time Thomas, seeing the resurrected Christ confessed, “

John 20:28 ...my Lord and my God!

You have to remember that doubting Thomas became Thomas the Confessor!

Background on Thomas

ABOUT THOMAS. Before I end this sermon, let’s discuss quickly about Thomas. Everyone knows him as Doubting Thomas. But we have to remember that he was a man of courage and of faith.

Examples :

He was the one who sincerely asked Jesus

John 14:5 "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

This prompted Jesus reply, which we all know in

John 14:6 "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through Me."

Another example :

Jesus was going back to Judea at a time when the authorities wanted to kill Him. The other disciples tried to persuade Him not to go. But Jesus had to go. Thomas was the one who said,

John 11:16 "Let us also go so we may die with Him."

Here you can see Thomas' commitment to Jesus that he was willing to die with Him.

Us? Choosing between mother or father, or boyfriend or girlfriend or money or God. What will you choose? Be honest with yourself.

But of course, Thomas got disappointed and doubted when Jesus died.

Application : It also happens to us. There will be times that we will go periods of discouragement, depression, disbelief and doubts just like Thomas because of our circumstances – maybe disappointments in relationships whether in the family, work or even church or a sickness or a disease or lost of income or a job. You might be thinking is Jesus for real? But then Jesus by His grace, will show you His presence to us and then we can say again just like Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

Quote : Your doubts will become declarations of faith when you encounter Jesus.

What was the secret? Thomas never left the fellowship of the believers. (That's when Jesus showed to us)

One of Satan's tactics is to make sure you detach yourself from the church. It's because he knows the church is where the presence of God is.

Illustration : Hot coal detached from other coals will lose its ember.

Application : The more you are doubting God, disappointed with your situation or even with God, that's the time the more you attend church.

Now, when somebody asks me, "Who is Jesus?" I answer, "He is *my Lord and my God.*"

You might ask me? "But Pastor, isn't Jesus your Saviour." Of course, He is.

Quote : But Jesus cannot be your Saviour, if He is not your Lord and your God.

Let me explain :

The very name Jesus comes from Yeshua which means, "The LORD is my salvation."

This means, He can save us from our sins because He is Lord and God!

That's why in Romans 10 it says :

Romans 10: 9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. And then Paul adds in verse 13

Romans 10: 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

So what does it mean to say like Thomas to Jesus, "My Lord and My God." To have Jesus governing our lives.

1. It's Having a Relationship with Jesus (or fellowship with Jesus)
2. It's Accepting the Lordship of Jesus
3. It's Responding in Worship of Jesus

I. RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

Thomas said, "*John 20:28 ...my Lord and my God!*"

MY WIFE ILLUSTRATION: You cannot say to another person's wife, "my wife." You can only say that to your wife. Why? Saying "my", means you have a personal connection with her.

Saying "my" means, I know this person intimately.

It's because when we ask people, "Do you know Jesus?" They may say, I know Jesus and they may even tell you what they read about Him in the Bible.

But the real question is, "Do you know Jesus?"

Illustration : People know who Chicay is but I know who Chicay is. It's because we have an intimate personal relationship.

And that is what Jesus wants from us, to know Him personally and intimately.

Biblical Illustration :

Matthew 16: 13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

DYAD STORY: When I was in the Philippines last year, I had the chance to share the gospel to my nieces – one was 12 and the other one I think was 8. Then my sister came out and we got to talking about having a one-on-one relationship with God.

My sister has a degree in Psychology and has a master's degree in Computer Science said to me something like this, "You know, what that's true because true relationships are dyad." I did not know the meaning of dyad before until she told me that triad is a "group of three", and "dyad" is anything that is "two" So she said, true relationships can only happen one-on-one.

So my question is, "Do you have a true personal relationship with Jesus Christ?"

WHAT'S THE PROOF YOU KNOW JESUS? That's why Jesus said,

John 10: 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

John 14:15 15 "If you love me, you will obey my commandments.

What is the test of that true relationship with Jesus Christ?

II. LORDSHIP OF JESUS

"John 20:28 ...my Lord and my God!"

All of our relationships have a role to play in our life and we have a role in their life.

Examples : Husband and wife; Father and child, Boss and employee, Teacher and student;

If we don't accept their role, then there's no real relationship.

The same way, if we do not accept the Lordship of Jesus Christ, then it means we don't have a relationship with Him.

Lordship means, one who rules your life. Who rules your life?

This is the reason why Jesus said,

Luke 14: 26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. 27 And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."

It means, if anyone else rules your life more than Jesus Christ then you are not Christ's disciples.

NOT MY STUDENT Illustration : A teacher was asked about a notorious person, "Professor, we heard that Mr. Brown was your student. Is that true?" The professor answered, "Mr. Brown was certainly in my class but he is not my student."

It's the same with us, people can say, "Is he a disciple of Christ?" And Christ may answer, "He certainly attends church but he is not my disciple."

What does it mean to say, "Jesus is my Lord."?

RELINQUISH ILLUSTRATION : I have heard one preacher say, "You know what, every New Year, I do not list resolutions. I make a list of relinquishments." To relinquish means to give up or to abandon or to surrender (isuko)

Quote : To say that Jesus is Lord means He sits on the throne of my heart. It means to relinquish control of my life to Him.

Examples :

"Lord, I relinquish my pride to you."

"Lord, I relinquish my worries to you."

"Lord, I relinquish my unforgiveness to you." **"Lord, I relinquish my sinful lifestyle to you."**

Luke 14 :33 In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

Now the question is, why can we relinquish or surrender our control to another person?

IT'S BECAUSE WE TRUST THAT PERSON.

NOT TRUST BANK Illustration : I have heard that the owner of a chocolate factory in the Philippines keeps all his cash in a big vault. A person asked, "Why don't you put it in the bank?" The owner replied, "I don't trust banks"

Quote : We can only relinquish or surrender our worries, our pride, our unforgiveness, our money, our sinful lifestyle and even some of our relationships to someone if we trust them. We can surrender our lives to Jesus because we trust Him. We trust Him BECAUSE HE IS GOD.

III. WORSHIP OF JESUS

*"John 20:28 ...my Lord and my **God!**"*

Quote : JESUS CANNOT BE LORD IF HE IS NOT GOD.

Make no mistake about it. JESUS IS GOD. When He is called the Son of God, it means He is God. The Bible is very clear that Jesus is God.

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

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 10:30 I and the Father are one."

John 8:58 "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

Colossians 3: 15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Quote : “I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

C.S. Lewis “Mere Christianity”

Since Jesus is God, THE PROPER RESPONSE TO HIM IS WORSHIP.

Important : Now we either worship Him today because you believe He is God or one of these days, you will worship Him because you will discover for yourself when He comes back again that He is God...but that will be too late.

The Bible says :

Philippians 2: 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Now the question is, how can we have that personal relationship with God? How do we start?

After Thomas said to Jesus, my Lord and my God, here is Jesus’ response.

John 20: 29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

It starts by believing who He says He is. That He is Lord and God.

1 Peter 1: 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Now that I’ve shown you what it means having Jesus Christ as Lord and God, my question is to you?

WHO IS JESUS TO YOU?

(Share clip)

S.G.D.