

Empire Church of the Brethren

Sunday Service Sermons

12 October 2025

Jesus is Lord

Text: "Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say?" *Luke 6:46*

No one can say Jesus is Lord unless the Holy Spirit lives in them.

If Jesus is your Lord then you are a member of the Family of God.

We can differ in how we live the life God gives us but if we claim Jesus as Lord then we are all brothers and sister in God's family.

Is it natural for you to address Jesus The Christ as Lord?

The title of Lord belongs to him for he is the Lord of all.

His earliest followers felt this to be the proper name from the beginning.

This is rather surprising since they would not have used this title to address any other person in their lives.

The Jews had been taught that only God is Lord.

This title was their affirmation of both the deity and authority of Jesus.

It acknowledged is unique relationship to God and the absolute authority attending the relationship.

As we consider the nature of this life that reflects that Jesus is truly Lord, we discover that it must be a life personally related to him, fully instructed by him, and continuously obedient to him.

When Jesus is Lord, there is a personal relationship with him.

The establishment of the relationship.

Although persons may have known about Jesus from their earliest memory, their true relationship to Jesus can begin only when they accept Jesus' invitation to come to him.

This means making a faith response that admits their unique union with God and his supreme authority over humans.

The continuance of the relationship.

The present participles found in the original text are more forceful than our translations of "comes", "hear", "acts".

The person who comes, hears, and acts is the person who builds his home on the foundation of rock and it will withstand the storms of life.

The original language implies a continuous coming to Christ, hearing his words and acting on them.

Recognizing the reality and validity of our initial response to Christ, we must continue to affirm him as the true center of our lives by our coming, hearing, and obeying.

Because many mistake their relationship with the institutional church for a relationship with Christ, it is possible to be a religious leader and not know Jesus as Lord.

When he is Lord, we are in a continuous personal relationship with him.

When Jesus is Lord, there is personal instruction from him.

Through the scriptures.

"And hears my sayings" is the second phrase Jesus used to describe life under his Lordship.

This grows out of a close personal relationship with him and the desire to know him better by every available means.

True disciples have a hunger to know the mind of their Lord.

They will approach the Holy Word regularly and faithfully so they can hear the voice of their Lord.

Through the Holy Spirit.

At the Last Supper Jesus promised the coming of the Spirit, saying, "he will guide you into all truth".

Paul wrote, Those who are led by the Holy Spirit of God are the children of God.

The Holy Spirit and the Holy Scriptures work harmoniously to provide the essential instruction for those to whom Jesus is indeed Lord.

When Jesus is Lord, there is personal obedience to him.

Obedience is the natural result of relationship.

Just as the dancer's movements are in obedience to the music he hears, so the true disciple of the Lord hears his words and does them.

In the upper room Jesus said, if you love me, you will obey what I command.

Later that evening he added, You are my friends if you do what I command.

John declares, His commands are not burdensome.

Obedience is specific.

We who would be true disciples give careful attention to the specific words of Christ and seek to implement them in our lives.

We obey his words about prayer, about witnessing, about worry, about neighbors, about church and home, about love.

We are concerned about the actualization of his will in every area of our lives.

Obedience is continuous.

While we are yet sinners, obedience can be substantial, though not complete or perfect.

Yet as true disciples we practice obedience as a continuing way of life.

This is the bottom line.

The only life that will stand the storms is the one in which Jesus is truly Lord.

It is a life in which his Lordship is a meaningful practice rather than mere profession.

And Jesus will help your life such a life through the power of the Holy Spirit, if you ask for him to do so.

Let God be your light in this dark world.

First John one five states that God is light.

And in the same chapter it states that Jesus is the light of the world.

If you are an early morning person you know the beauty and hope that comes each morning when the light of a new day breaks the darkness of the night.

Jesus is the light that gives life.

The true light that was coming into the world.

In him was life and that life was the light of people.

Light is the life-giving force of the universe.

In the creation the first thing God says is, Let there be light.

No one can create or exist without light.

Just like the light gives us direction so does God.

Just like one fumbling around in the dark we have no direction without God.

Sin is living in the darkness.

The light of God gives us direction out of sin and into a relationship with God through Jesus The Son lead by the Holy Spirit which is the power of God to save and redeem.

We walk in the light when we walk with God, Jesus and The Spirit.

Walking in the light leads us to obedience.

And in obedience we can trust and obey.

It is not enough to wish for fellowship or to think about fellowship we are to live in fellowship.

God is light and light is in the business of putting out darkness.

Forgiveness accomplishes the removal of sin, and shining the light in the right direction.

Forgiveness is like turning on the light.

Sin is acknowledged, forgiveness is sought, and the light shines.

Sin belongs to darkness and forgiveness belongs to light.

God is light, and light is powerful.

Darkness concerns deception, while light concerns honesty.

Walking in the light adds the perception that reckons honestly with oneself.

The universe is light and warmth.

Light does away with anger, prejudice and fear.

Light expresses not only purity and holiness but also the concepts of God's self-revealing and his self-giving goodness.

As it is the nature of light to shine, so it is the nature of God to give and to bless.

He gives life and light to all who will receive them, who will walk in the light, who will accept his forgiveness, who will be honest with themselves.

They become the light of the world.

How is your light shining?