

# Lordship Salvation, Free Grace & the Sovereignty of God

by Rolfe Barnard

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of recognizing Jesus Christ as Lord, submitting to his authority, and surrendering to his will, in order to be saved and to live a life of obedience to God.*

**Duration:** 24:16

**Scripture:** Exodus 20:8-11, Psalm 50:10, Acts 8:9, Acts 9:6, Acts 10:36, Romans 2:29, 1 Corinthians 12:3

**Topics:** "Salvation"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of recognizing Jesus Christ as Lord. He quotes 1 Corinthians 12:3, which states that no one can declare Jesus as Lord without the Holy Spirit. The preacher challenges the audience to examine their own hearts and question whether they have truly surrendered to Jesus as their Lord. He also highlights the rebellion of those who refuse to acknowledge Jesus as their ruler. The sermon concludes with the preacher urging the audience to consider three truths that are implied if Jesus Christ is truly sovereign and the King of kings.

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## Transcript

Good morning, friends. We begin this morning, the seventh in the series of messages on the subject of the Lordship of our blessed Savior, Jesus Christ. And these mornings together we've been using as our basic text that passage of Scripture found in 1 Corinthians chapter 12, verse 3. No man can say that Jesus is Lord but by the Holy Ghost.

There's a cryptic categorical statement, it's either so or it isn't so. If it's so, we ought to pay some attention to it, those of us who are trying to preach and to exercise our calling and to witness to men and women about the terms upon which the God of all heaven brings men in the saving relationship to himself. Now this morning I want to continue the message that we brought last Lord's Day.

I brought you last Lord's Day three things the Bible teaches about the fact that Jesus Christ is Lord. He's Lord by God's eternal decree. He's Lord whether we recognize him or not.

He's Lord over the saved, thank God. He's Lord over the unsaved and he's going to bring this world into subjection to himself that he may turn it over to the Father. A world that's been brought back to recognition of the sway and the Lordship of Almighty God.

We saw last Lord's Day that he deserves to be Lord in virtue of his death and resurrection on our behalf. And we also saw in an intimate look into the heart of our blessed Lord that he desires to be the Lord of all mankind and that men by their willful rebellion in language that I suppose we have to use to accommodate our thinking, men rob him of the joy that was set before him by continuing to cry we will not have this man to reign over us. Now this morning if I can let's get right down to cases and I want you to elect yourself a committee of one to listen and see whether the word of God has a message for your own heart.

Sitting or standing before a microphone person tries to picture people who are listening and wonders in his heart of hearts how they are in relationship to a living God. And I want this morning if I can to bring to you three truths that are implied if Jesus Christ is sovereign, if he is Lord of all and King of Kings. What does the fact of his Lordship or his sovereignty imply to men and women everywhere? I think about the fact that if everything's been turned over to the Lord Jesus then if anybody's sent to hell the Lord will have to send them.

I think about the fact that if the scriptures are right when they tell us that everything's been turned over to the Lord Jesus then if any man's judge yonder at the great white throne the judge will be the Lord Jesus Christ. I think about the fact that if Jesus Christ has been appointed Lord of all mankind that no man can escape him. We must meet him, meet him now as blessed savior or meet him then as judge of all mankind.

How solemn is the fact that no matter how you live or no matter how you do you cannot escape meeting the Lord Jesus Christ. You're going to have to deal with him as he deals with you and I wish that that could be faced by men and women. You can't get by, you just can't do it.

Somebody says well I don't have anything to do with him. Well but you must, you must either in time or yonder at the judgment. If I could this morning I'd like to lay three things close to your heart and the first of these is this if the Lord Jesus Christ has been appointed Lord both of the dead and the living by God Almighty's divine eternal decree then that lordship and that sovereignty that God has turned over not to you or me but to him demands my entire submission to him.

It demands my utter surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ. Oh I wish we believed this. I know you and I have lived in a generation where preachers have omitted the truth that you cannot have Christ as savior without having him as Lord but that that will soften the awful flames of hell and I'm here on this radio to ask you to listen to me hear me now I'm not trying to debate a point or prove something I'm simply stating a fact and you're gonna have to suffer by it or be blessed by it in eternity that you can't divide the Lord Jesus Christ up as he's been divided you cannot leave out his lordship and preach the Christ of the gospel I say that to preach Christ as savior without preaching Christ as Lord makes a mockery of the gospel and of the entire Christian life I say that there must be true repentance and repentance looks in direction to the fact that you and I live every day of our life under the lordship of Christ whether we recognize it or not and that if he is Lord then we must sanctify him as Lord in our lives and not sanctify our own will or our own selves I'm speaking to men and women this morning who come up in a generation where men and women seem to want to receive Christ the savior in order to have a passport to heaven but they desire to remain in their sins and in the world and those of us who preach must be faithful and declare like Peter did in Acts chapter 8 thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter for thy heart is not right in the sight of God repent therefore of this thy wickedness and pray God if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee for I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity the sainted Mr.

Spurgeon of blessed ministry used to warn his students and I wish you'd listen to this quotation from Mr. Spurgeon said he if the professed convert distinctly and deliberately declares that he knows the Lord's will but does not mean to attend to it you are not to pamper his presumption but it is your duty to assure him that he is not saying do you imagine that the gospel is magnified or God glorified by going to the whirlwinds and telling them that they may be saved at this moment by simply accepting Christ as their savior while they are wedded to their idols and their hearts are still in love with sin if I do so said Mr.

Spurgeon I tell them a lie I pervert the gospel I insult Christ and I turn the grace of God into lasciviousness I wish Mr. Spurgeon could face preachers today and personal workers and Sunday school teachers that make honor the great basic truths of the word of God and dare to substitute their little efforts for the work of the Holy Spirit and going around talking about decisions and how many converts and how many additions that I've had up but bless God there's mine not the Lord I tell you my friends these people that say you walk down this aisle and do so and so and so and so now I guarantee you will be saved they are the enemies of men's souls and I lift up my voice now before you go to hear your own preacher this morning and let him ease your pain by just saying that Ron Barnard's a fool I tell you now that you cannot have Jesus Christ while you are still an open outright downright rebellion against his law in your life and for anybody to tell you that right now in the shape you're in just take Jesus as your savior you won't go to hell when you die is to pervert the gospel they're enemies of your soul and you just make a decision and at the judgment bar of God you'll find out that you're one of that crowd I don't have any demons you cast out I have any wonderful works you commit in Christ's name he'll say to you depart from me ye cursed into everlasting fire I never did know you I never did know you my friends it is true today that the son of God does not save rebels while they are flaunting the flag of their rebellion there must be utter submission there must be utter surrender before there can be salvation what a parody of the gospel when many are told to trust Jesus to take them to heaven when they die who nevertheless are living in the practice of sin and rebellion against the holy laws of the Lord Jesus Christ Mr.

George Goodman has left on record an illustration of the truth of the utter hollowness our utter impossibility of claiming to rest on the finished work of Christ we hear that don't we while refusing to live under the lordship of Christ Mr. Goodman says a king has part of his kingdom in rebellion and in order to show his grace cause his mercy to be proclaimed to the rebels on their yielding to him and seeking reconciliation on the ground of the proclamation this king threatens destruction to those who continue to defy his authority one of the rebels is warned of his danger but he replies I'm in no danger I'm resting on the proclamation I'm sure the king is faithful he'll never break his promise to withdraw his proclaimed mercy but somebody says to this one but you're still in rebellion you're continuing in the course he condemns and you're indifferent to his commands and the mercy is offered to those who yield and the man says yeah that's right but the mercy is free there are no conditions and to make conditions with a bit make it no more of is the reply what should we say says Mr.

Goodman to such reasoning alas is it not in effect what some of us say who while refusing Christ as lord profess to trust in him and his work for salvation why hell's gonna be so full of these people trusting in the finished work of Jesus whose hearts have never been circumcised by the grace of God and have never had a personal encounter with the lord of glory and likes all of Tarsus bowed down and said lord that settles it what will you have me to do dear old Walter Marshall who wrote that book that everybody copies now on sanctification he wrote it some 300 years ago let me quote him why Mr.

Marshall says why does a man seek a pardon if he intends to go on in rebellion and stand out in defiance of his prince they seek a pardon in a mocking way and intend not to return unto obedience to take a part of

his salvation and leave out the rest but Christ is not divided they would be saved by Christ and yet be out of Christ in a fleshless state whereas God doth free none from condemnation but those who are in Christ oh my soul the utter lordship and sovereignty of Jesus Christ demands if I were to escape hell demands it's this or hell demands utter absolute 100 percent submission and surrender to Jesus Christ as lord and his lordship and sovereignty imply in the second place for men his absolute ownership of me and of mine in acts chapter 10 and verse 36 we find these five words how

pregnant they are with meaning he is lord of all why bless your heart to listen to present day preaching it's all right for unsaved people to do as they please why I hear it say that a Christian ought to tithe and the Christian ought to keep the Lord's day holy the Christian ought to love God but that isn't so everybody ought to tithe the tithe is holy says the Lord the tithe is mine he jealous of it I preach my friends that the cattle on a thousand hills belong to the Lord they don't belong to unsaved men and I preach that there is something that America's fixing to rot at the back to face and that is that the Lord's day is not a day of reclamation and pleasure and sin but it's indicative of a nation's recognition of the sovereignty of God that he sets aside a day to be devoted to him

and I say that while we're not trying to legislate anybody we can't do that we do look men and women in the face and tell them now every time you take a penny out of the first tenth of every dollar comes into your hands I don't care whether you saved or not saved you're a thief but you're a robber you're doing what God forbids you to do that's his don't you put your hand on it and the way we treat God's holy day now is a sight for sore eyes my friends my Lord is Lord of all he's the Lord of all the money there is in the world he's the Lord of the he's the Lord over you he's the Lord over me and I warn you now that he owns you and he owns me and he owns everything you've got and he owns everything I've got and to recognize and submit to the sovereignty and lordship of Christ is to

recognize his absolute lordship and ownership not only of me but of mine every last thing that I have or ever hoped to have and then in the last place to recognize and to submit to the lordship and sovereignty of Christ not only requires entire submission not only requires recognition of his absolute ownership of me and of mine of you and of yours but it requires unquestioning obedience that plaintive cry of my Lord in Luke 6 46 why call ye me Lord Lord and do not the things which I say I seem to hear the plaintiveness in the voice of my Lord he said don't you know that won't do any good don't you know you can't get by with that don't you know just calling me Lord not what I'm after don't you know I mean the recognition of my lordship by the way you live don't you know that if you

actually believed I as Lord and surrendered to my lordship you'd obey me without question now nobody does that nobody'll understand but believe the Bible now unless they don't understand it I haven't screamed at me I don't understand that well I don't know that we are entitled to and the mother says to the Lord boy Jimmy do so and so and he says why and and church members say why and everybody says why and we question the authority of God but I tell you right now there'll be no questions when my Lord speaks we're simply to say speak Lord thy servant hear it we would bow like Saul with Tarsha and say Lord that settles it I found out who you are what do you have me to do what do you have me to do from now on I'm under your orders you know in the army I as a chaplain and in the army

especially during times of war brother you don't question an order you obey it that's what the beat over soldiers so and they train them and they try to harden them I chonder when the bullets are flying death is everywhere and the commanding officer says march he don't want some little buck private wanting to give him a lecture on the why we're to march he wants him instinctively to march you know oh my soul that

person who does not instinctively march at the command of the commander-in-chief the Lord Jesus Christ certainly needs to be told and I tell you now you've missed Christ you don't know what salvation is all about God help you you don't know what obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ is the soldiers trained to act just like that because of the obedience to the command now nobody said

well brother you never will get about say that kind of preaching no I won't I'm telling you now again that you can take Jesus as your savior some of you've done it a dozen times still not saved you can walk the aisle of your church and they can count you as another decision you're still not saved but oh my soul it takes the power of the Holy Spirit to bend you and bring you the way you not only say it but you say it mean it he's my Lord he's my Lord you can't do that in your own strength but thank God through his enablement you can he alone my friends can present that is the Holy Spirit can present the claims of Christ to be Lord and he who creates a desire within some heart that's listen to me now will enable you to crown Jesus Christ King of Kings and Lord of Lords and on and on as you

live you'll constantly discover new territories in your lives and when that new territory has not been surrendered is discovered you'll bring it under Christ's imperial scepter and crown him Lord over that absolute unquestioned obedience to the will of the Lord Jesus Christ is a sign that you are saved during the world first world war a Red Cross nurse was sick unto death and she was being attended by another Red Cross nurse and just a little while before this one died she began to move her lips and she could hardly talk and she said breathe breathe breathe and the attendant nurse thought maybe she wanted a sip of water and she brought her some water but she shook her head she didn't want any water and then pretty soon the dying woman said breathe breathe and the nurse didn't know she

brought her a bible thought maybe she wanted the bible but the dying woman shook her head she didn't want the bible and then directly she said bring bring and the attendant nurse didn't know so she brought her a notebook and a piece of a pencil so she could write a request but the dying nurse shook her head and then she lifted herself up with about the last strength she had on on the bed she put the palm of her hand down and lifted herself up in a half sitting position and she began to say bring bring bring Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all and now our father we come again at the close of another broadcast as once again we've tried the best we've known how we trust under the anointing of the holy ghost to lift up a standard against satan and to be true to the souls of

men and women boys and girls who hear these broadcasts and announce and proclaim and insist upon the fact that this world is under the judgment of the lordship of Jesus Christ that men can't get by as they ignore him and resist him and rebel against him the only place for a poor old hell-deserving hell-bound sinner is prostrate at the feet of the Lord Jesus crying for mercy oh God speak to people's hearts as now they've heard this another broadcast get glory to him who loved us and loosed us from our sins we pray our father for those who ought to be helping us with their prayer and their financial support Lord speak to hearts and enable us to continue these broadcasts as we go from place to place trying to preach the law and the gospel reaping a harvest of souls for our blessed Lord and

savior Jesus Christ we ask these things in his name and for his sake amen still waters revival books is now located at [puritandownloads.com](http://puritandownloads.com) it's your worldwide online reformation home for the very best in free and discounted classic and contemporary puritan and reformed books mp3s and videos for much more information on the puritans and reformers including the best free and discounted classic and contemporary books mp3s digital downloads and videos please visit still waters revival books at [puritandownloads.com](http://puritandownloads.com) still waters revival books also publishes the puritan hard drive the most powerful

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