

REPENTANCE AND LORDSHIP

“The person who objects and coins the phrase ‘Lordship salvation’ which is the view that we are to believe in Jesus Christ both as Savior and Lord - which is to say we are to believe and repent - this has been the view of the church down through the centuries and now it has been made as some kind of aberrant view by some in recent times. The fact of the matter is that what God requires for salvation is faith and repentance.” **-D. James Kennedy**

THE “LORDLESS GOSPEL” - A FALSE GOSPEL

What has been dubbed by some as “**Easy Believism**” I believe is more accurately labeled “**The Lordless Gospel**”. This false gospel claims Christ can be received as Savior while at the same time rejecting Him as Lord. “**Lordless Gospel**” advocates go so far as to claim REPENTANCE is not necessary for salvation.

“Our ears have grown accustomed to hearing men told to ‘accept Jesus as your personal Savior,’ a form of words which is not found in Scripture. It has become an empty phrase. These may be precious words to the Christian – ‘personal Savior.’ But they are wholly inadequate to instruct a sinner in the way to eternal life. They wholly ignore an essential element of the Gospel, namely repentance.” **-Walter Chantry**

Often those who hold to a “Lordship” position are **slanderously** misrepresented as holding to a “works salvation”. Of course, any “works salvation” (whatever the label) is to be condemned in the strongest of terms (Gal. 1:6-9).

With everything in me I affirm that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone (Eph. 2:8-9). The issue regarding BELIEVING on Christ as LORD is not a “works salvation”, but rather the issue involves the NATURE OF SAVING FAITH. We are saved by FAITH ALONE, but it must be the RIGHT KIND OF FAITH. Saving faith involves the element of REPENTANCE, and REPENTANCE and LORDSHIP are an inseparable package. To be saved, Christ must be BELIEVED ON as Lord and Savior! (Phil. 3:3, 8)

THE CONCEPT OF REPENTANCE AND LORDSHIP

The concept of LORD inherently involves His SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY (Phil. 2:9-11). Jesus Himself illustrated this truth when He said, “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46).

True believers recognize Christ as Lord (Rom. 10:9-13). The Bible is clear: "Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." To call on Him as LORD He must be recognized as LORD! He undeniably is Lord of all true believers (Rom. 14:9; 1 Cor. 1:2, 12:3). Believing on Christ as Lord inherently includes the element of REPENTANCE (Lk. 24:47).

REPENTANCE and LORDSHIP go together and the issue is always SAVING FAITH in the PERSON and WORK of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-26; Heb. 6:1).