



Sunday, August 12, 2018
Pastor Doug Phillips

Introduction to Romans 6:17

Referring to this passage in Romans D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones once said, “We come here to one of the great, striking and outstanding verses in the Bible ... That is so because it contains one of the clearest definitions found in the New Testament as to what exactly it means to be a Christian.”

Paul envisioned the Christian life as a submission to Christ’s lordship in conversion. Followed by a deepening of that commitment throughout one’s life. Coming to true faith in Christ is more than simply praying a prayer. It is more than just wanting Christ for His benefits namely, salvation. It is characterized by a desire to throw off the bondage of sin and instead submit ourselves to Jesus’ lordship. This is expressed practically in love for God and heartfelt obedience to Christ’s commands. This doesn’t mean sinless perfection, but instead is a relationship. We are servants of Christ. While a servant may make some small errors continued deliberate disobedience is uncharacteristic of the relationship.

Context

In modern evangelical culture there is a tendency to “lower the bar” in order to attract new members to the church. This push for higher numbers has led to downplaying the Lordship of Christ in our lives. However not all who call Jesus “Lord, Lord” will be saved. True salvation is characterized by repentance from sin, removing the shackles of sin, and being servants of the cross. When we downplay Christ’s Lordship we are unfaithful to the Biblical testimony, we give people a false sense of security in the Gospel, we weaken the Church from the inside, and weaken the Church’s influence in the culture. Ultimately, a quest for growth without Christ’s Lordship at the center is a false gospel.

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

“Obedient from the Heart”

Read Romans 6:17

- Romans 6:17 Describes what it is to be Christian
- Lordship has been missing or at least been marginalized in American Evangelicalism.
- Omitting the truth has serious negative effects.
- As you received Jesus as Lord continue to walk in Him.

