RINGDOM PEOPLE SERIES

Has being a Christian *RADICALLY* changed you?



Five things we should be Radical about

Jesus, The Lost, Who You are in Christ, Discipling Others and Family



Jesus

Who do you say He is? Is that Radical?



John Duncan (Scottish 1796-1870)

- 1. He deceived us fraudulently
- 2. He was deluded Himself
- 3. He was Divine





Watchman Nee (stated 1936)

- 1. If not God, a mad man or a lunatic
- 2. If not God, He was a liar
- 3. If none of the above, He was God





C S Lewis (stated 1942, published 1952)

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.



C S Lewis (stated 1942, published 1952)

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 patronising nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to... Now it seems to me obvious that He was neither a lunatic nor a fiend: and consequently, however strange or terrifying or unlikely it may seem, I have to accept the view that He was and is God.



William Lane Craig (Reasonable Faith 1994)

There is another alternative: perhaps the Jesus presented in the Bible is not the true Jesus of history. The Jesus of the Bible may not be a liar or a lunatic or a Lord but rather a *legend*. In other words, the Jesus of the Bible is not the Jesus of history, so your claims about what must be trust about the Jesus of the Bible do not lead to conclusions about the actual lordship of the Jesus of history.



- Roman historian Tacitus write of Christ who suffered the most extreme penalty under Pontius Pilate and about the religion that arose thereafter
- · Pliny the Younger wrote to the Emperor Trajan to ask for advice about Christians, describing their style of worship.



Josephus (Jewish Historian)

about this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he ... wrought surprising feats... He was the Christ. When Pilate ...condemned him to be crucified, those who had . . . come to love him did not give up their affection for him. On the third day he appeared ... restored to life.... And the tribe of Christians ... has ... not disappeared.



Resurrection from the dead is a significant indicator of the Lordship of Christ If it was a myth, why would all eleven remaining disciples and others be prepared to die for something that was a lie?



Easy to accept Him as a historical figure

Easy to accept Him as a great philosopher or teacher

Easy to accept Him as a religious leader

NOT SO EASY TO ACCEPT HIM AS LORD!



"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." Acts 2:36



That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is

Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised

him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9



Believing is not enough!

James 2:19

You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!



Believing is not enough!

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

James 2:14-17



Believing is not enough!

- To believe in Jesus means to accept Him as both Saviour and Lord.
- If we say, "Jesus is Lord," that means He is our master and He calls the shots. Jesus is either Lord of all or not at all.
- · He can't be Lord of some or most of our lives—He has to be Lord of every area, every day.
- Three main areas to consider



Jesus is Lord of my will

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." Luke 22:42

- we submit our will
- · we need to make a decision to follow God no matter how hard it gets.



Jesus is Lord of my mind

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2



Jesus is Lord of my mind

Making Jesus Lord of your mind is about filling your mind with His Word.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:25-27



Jesus is Lord of my mind

Our thoughts should be obedient to Christ, and we should not allow ungodly thoughts to rule our minds.

2 Corinthians 10:5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,



Jesus is Lord of my body

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own . . .

1 Corinthians 6:19

To make Jesus Lord is to acknowledge that our bodies are no longer our own. What we believe should reflect in how we live, including where we go, what we do, and what we say, even what and how we eat.



Jesus is Lord of my body

- What is a temple? The Bible says that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. How has this affected your
- · lifestyle? What does it mean to make Jesus the Lord of



How does this apply?

- Have you surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ?
- · How can your thoughts, words, and actions reflect Jesus' Lordship over you this week?
- Do you have beliefs, thought patterns, or practices that you know are not in agreement with God's Word?
- How can you renew your mind and know Him more every day?

