

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

“I’M NOT ASHAMED TO OWN MY LORD”

Scripture Reading:

“For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels” (Luke 9:26).

Introduction:

- A. The title for this lesson is based on a hymn written by Isaac Watts. He used Luke 9:26 as the scriptural text for the writing of the hymn which communicates the idea of not being ashamed of Jesus Christ.
 - **I’m not ashamed to own my Lord, or to defend His cause; maintain the honor of His Word, the Glory of His Cross.**
- B. **Ashamed means to feel shame for something. To be disgraced – misplaced confidence or support. To be reluctant to do something through fear of embarrassment or humiliation.**
- C. According to D.L. Moody, he remembered hearing of a young convert who got up to say something for Christ in the open air. Not being accustomed to speak, he stammered a good deal at first, when an infidel came right along and shouted out, "Young man, you ought to be ashamed of yourself, standing and talking like that." "Well," the young man replied, "I'm ashamed of myself, but I'm not ashamed of Christ." That was a good answer.
 - Every Believer should have the courage and conviction to say (just as this convert) – “I’m not ashamed of Christ.”
- D. “I am not ashamed of the One who saved my soul” – Anonymous
- E. “I am not ashamed of Jesus Christ – without Him I am nothing” – Anonymous

Study Question #1:

Are you ashamed of Christ? If so, Why?

The title for this lesson presents several reasons why **Believers should not be ashamed of Christ:**

I. He is our Lord

Stanza 1: “I’m not ashamed to own my Lord, or to defend His cause; maintain the honor of His Word, the Glory of His Cross”

A. Lord means someone with authority, control or power over others.

1. Jesus as Lord is the head of the church (Eph 1:22; 5:23; Col 1:18)
2. Jesus as Lord is the ruler over all creation (1 Chron 29:12; Ps 115:3; Col 1:16-17)
3. Jesus as Lord is the Lord of lords and King of kings (Ps 136:3; Deut 10:17; 1 Tim 6:15; Rev 19:16)

B. Jesus as Lord is a way of recognizing Jesus' divine standing

1. After the resurrection of Jesus, Thomas referred to Jesus as "My Lord and My God" (John 20:28). From thereafter, the message of the Apostles was that Jesus is Lord, signifying that Jesus is God.
2. During Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost, he declared (Israel be assured), "that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36).
3. At His birth, Jesus was declared as "Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).
4. While Peter was preaching in Cornelius' house, He declared that Jesus is "Lord of All" (Acts 10:36).

C. Jesus is Lord indicated that Jesus is God. Jesus holds "all power in heaven and earth" (Matt 28:18).

D. Jude 4 describes Jesus as, "the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ."

E. Jesus is our Lord – Therefore, we must always be ready to defend His cause by maintaining the honor of His Word, the Gospel.

- "But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel" (Phil 1:17).
- "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Pet 3:15).

F. Jesus is Lord – Therefore, we must uphold the Glory of His Cross, the symbol of God's plan for our redemption.

- "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Gal 2:20).
- "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world" (Gal 6:14).

Points to Ponder:

- The realm of Jesus' reign covers everything that occurs in Heaven and on Earth. Not one – Believer nor Unbeliever can be free of His rule or outside His sphere of authority. Satan wants us to believe that freedom is found in having our way but true freedom is acquired only through submission to Christ's loving Lordship.
- Death cannot release anyone from the authority of Jesus. He is the Lord of the living and the dead. All people must decide to yield or rebel against Him, but the opportunity to make this decision is while still alive. After death, they will acknowledge Christ's Lordship through accountability to Him. If we have not bowed the knee to Jesus in Life, we will be forced to bend it in the Judgment.

- ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Phil 2:9-11).

Study Question #2:

Have you submitted your whole life to Christ's rulership and authority? Are you living your life under the control of Jesus Christ? What areas of life are you controlling because you feel that you can do a better job with it than God?

Points to Ponder:

- "Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost" (1 Cor 12:3).
- "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31).

II. His Name is All Our Trust

Stanza 2: "Jesus, my God! I know His name, His name is all my Trust. Nor will He put my soul to shame, nor let my hope be lost.

A. The name Jesus means "Savior." Jesus saves people from the guilt of sin cleansing them in His own atoning Blood. He saves people from the power of sin and will save people from the consequences of sin, when He shall one day give them a Glorious Body.

- "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matt 1:21).

B. Trusting in the Name of Jesus is important as He is the Only Name to call upon for Salvation.

- "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).
- "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim 2:5).

C. The Name of Jesus is Sweet

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds; In a Believer's Ear! It soothes His sorrows, Heals His wounds, and drives away His fear.

D. I will Trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, I will Trust in the Lord until I die. I will Trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, I will Trust in the Lord until I die.

III. His Promises are as Firm as His Throne

Stanza 3: "Firm as His throne His promise stands, and He can well secure what I've committed to His hands till the decisive hour"

A. Promises of Jesus

Jesus made a number of promises during His earthly ministry. Some of the promises are for everyone, some for Believers and some are conditional. His promises are encouraging, increase our faith and gives us a glimpse of what is to come – our future in Heaven with Him.

1. Whosoever believes in Him has Eternal Life (John 3:16 -18).
2. He will be with Believers Always (Matt 28:16-20).
3. He will answer our prayers (John 14:12-14).
4. He is preparing a place for us in Heaven (John 14:1-3).
5. He is unchanging (Heb 13:8).
6. His Word will endure forever (Luke 21:33).
7. He promised a coming judgment (John 5:16-30).

B. The Promises of Jesus are as Firm as His Throne

- “Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens” (Heb 8:1).
- Jesus us the Great High Priest. He stands between God and man and is the only Person who can make man acceptable to God. Jesus is true to His promises – He is unchanging, solid and unyielding – as He is to His throne.

1. His throne is a place of eternal life (Rev 22:1)

Jesus is the source of eternal life. Only those who have drunk of the life that Christ gives will be at the throne of Christ.

2. His throne is a place of grace (Heb 4:16)

His throne represents Mercy and Grace for His children. In His Mercy, God does not give us the punishment we deserve, namely Hell; while in His Grace, God gives us the gift we do not deserve, namely Heaven.

C. The Lord is always faithful and His promises never fail (Exod 34:6; Deut 4:31; 7:9; Lam 3:22-23; Num 6:24-26).

**D. Standing on the Promises of Christ the Lord.
Bound to Him eternally by love’s strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit’s sword,
Standing on the Promises of God.**

IV. He Will Own Us Before God the Father

Stanza 4: “Then will He own my worthless name before His Father’s face. And in the New Jerusalem appoint my soul a place.”

- A. Jesus promised that if we confess Him before men, He will confess us before the “Father which is in Heaven” (Matt 10:32-33).
- B. Jesus promised to confess us before His “Father and before His Angels (Rev 3:5).
- C. Jesus has a place in the New Jerusalem for those who confess Him as their Savior (Rev 21:1-5).

- “Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also” (1 John 2:23).
- “Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God” (1 John 4:15).
- “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God” (1 John 4:2).
- “Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him” (1 John 5:1).

Conclusion:

A. Do not be ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Rom 1:16).
- “For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed” (Rom 10:11).

B. A soldier in hospital three times picked up the hymn, "Will you go?" which was scattered as a tract, and twice threw it down again. The last time he read it, he thought of it, and, taking his pencil, wrote deliberately on the margin these words: "By the grace of God, I will try to go. John Waugh, Company G, Tenth Regiment, P.R.V.C." That night he went to a prayer-meeting, read his resolution, requested prayers for his salvation, and said: "I am not ashamed of Christ now; but I am ashamed of myself for having been so long ashamed of Him." He was killed a few months after. How timely was his resolution!

C. Every Christian should have the courage to say, “I’m not ashamed to own my Lord.”

D. Romans Road to Salvation (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13).

Memory Verse:

“Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God” (2 Tim 1:8).

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“...the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).