

SAVIOR AND LORD

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The Bible teaches us many things about Jesus Christ. Two of these deal with His role and mission. He is both “Savior” and “Lord”. The angel speaking to Joseph said, *“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins (Matt. 1:21).”* John affirmed, *“And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as the Savior of the world (I John 4:14).”* On the other hand Peter said to the Jews on the day of Pentecost, *“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36).”* Paul wrote, *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:1).”*

The term “Savior” is defined as deliverer or preserver. The term “Lord” means he to whom a person or thing belongs; one who has control of the person; master.

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To many people, accepting Christ as “Savior” is easy. They intellectually admit that He is the Son of God and because of this admission they feel that all the blessings the “Savior” has to offer will automatically be theirs to enjoy. However, they still continue to live their lives without the slightest regard for the guidance of Christ. To actually receive the blessings of Jesus as “Savior”, we must first submit to Him as “Lord”. When Jesus is truly “Lord” in our lives, He controls us. We allow Him to mold and make us after His will. He becomes the dominating force in our lives. He is truly our Master. He owns us. It is only when we completely serve Jesus as “Lord” that we can expect Him to be our “Savior”.

Solomon wrote, *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths (Prov. 3:5-6).”*