## Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings



**July 2024** 

MOR-Bible, which is by God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, may God's unmerited divine favor be to you and an absolute end of all strife or trouble. From God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ to the faithful in Christ Jesus, we pray that we may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray that we faithfully serve God our Father with good works, doing the will of God our Father, and taking believing action in the light of God's Word in our walk, in our actions, and in our believing. We pray the very God of peace sanctify you wholly and your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

In previous teachings, we read in God's Word some of the usages of the name, **Jesus** (see <u>January 2024</u>), **in Christ Jesus** (see <u>February 2024</u>), and **Jesus Christ** (see <u>March 2024</u>). These names are used perfect in God's Word, and we must use them as they are used in God's Word if we want to see signs, miracles, and wonders.

For this month's teaching, we will search the scriptures for the name **Lord Jesus Christ** which is used to mark Jesus Christ's authority and power. We will **bold** the name for emphasis.

The sources for all Greek-English words are <u>Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible</u>, The Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New <u>Testament</u> (Bullinger), <u>Young's Analytical Concordance to the Bible</u>, and <u>The Word Study Concordance</u> by George V. Wigram and Ralph D. Winter.

When we study the usages of the name **Lord Jesus Christ**, you must make him Lord first! Lordship initiates all the rest. Without confessing the Lord Jesus and believing in your heart that God raised him from the dead, there is no Lordship (see Romans 10:9). You must make him Lord in your life. Then comes the name Jesus that doubly establishes who you made Lord; Christ completes it as the anointed one, raised from the dead and set down at God's own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come. All things are under Christ's feet, and he is the head over all things to the church, which is Christ's body (see Ephesians

1:20-22). For the teaching on the word "Lord," see December 2020 and "Jesus" see January 2024.

It is written in 1 Corinthians 12:3:

Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man [no one] can say that Jesus is the Lord [master], but by the Holy Ghost [speaking in tongues].

I can say the phrase "Jesus is the Lord" in English but God's Word says, "that no man [no one] can say that Jesus is the Lord [master], but by the Holy Ghost" [the gift of holy spirit in manifestation which is speaking in tongues]. If you do not like what God's Word says, tell God you do not like what His Word is saying. You must have the gift of holy spirit in manifestation or speaking in tongues, to truly say "Jesus is Lord." The June 2016 teaching discusses speaking in tongues.

By understanding Acts, Romans, Ephesians, and Thessalonians, you have all the essential truth for a person to be born-again of God's Spirit and do all things through Christ which strengthened us (see Philippians 4:13)! See March 2019 and April 2019 teachings on the Church Epistles. I don't know of anything else that you or I would need to comprehend in this life to be capable of living a life that is more than abundant and to have the responses in every situation in this life in which you and I live in this Grace Administration of the church of the body to which you and I belong.

In the book of Acts, there are six (6) usages of the name **Lord Jesus Christ**. However, in the fourth usage the word "Christ" is not in the text. We will read all six usages to gain a better understanding of this name. As a reminder, the book of Acts is the transition from the Old Testament to the New Testament which started on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2:4. It records the believing actions of God's people in the first century of whom the Word of God and the spirit of God was operated effectually. The born-again believers of that time believed on Jesus Christ and did the works that he did and greater works by getting people born-again of God's Spirit.

The Greek word for "Acts" is *praxeis*, where we get our English word "practices." We are to practice God's Word in our daily life by preaching Christ, getting born-again (see Romans 10:9) and receiving the gift of holy spirit in manifestation, and believing to operate all nine manifestations of the spirit (see 1 Corinthians 12:7-11). The book of

Acts shows us how to do all these actions! We exhort you to please read the chapter and context of these scriptures for further growth and understanding.

After the Gentiles had received the gift of the holy spirit as documented in Acts 10 and Peter had come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision [Israel] contended with Peter (see Acts 11:2) for going to the Gentiles which was considered unlawful according to Acts 10:28. In Acts 11:17, we find the first usage of the name **Lord Jesus Christ** in the Bible. We will read Acts 11:15-18 for understanding.

And as I [Peter] began to speak, the Holy Ghost [the gift of holy spirit] fell on them [the Gentiles], as on us at the beginning [reference back to Acts 2:4].

Then remembered I [Peter] the word of the Lord [master], how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost [holy spirit] [reference to Acts 1:5].

The word "but" sets in contrast water baptism with holy spirit baptism. We are reminded that we *shall be baptized with* what? holy spirit, not water! Peter never baptized Cornelius and his household with water. We are told in John 17:17:

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

According to God's pure, perfect, and magnified Word, we are to no longer perform water baptism. We are to be baptized in the *holy spirit*. If you do not like what God's Word says, tell God you do not like what His Word declares.

Let's continue with Acts 11:17:

Forasmuch then as God gave them [the Gentiles] the like gift as he did unto us [the twelve apostles], who believed on the **Lord Jesus Christ**; what was I, that I could withstand God?

I ask you the same question, "What are you, that you could withstand God?" Who gave His gift of holy spirit to you who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ? God did! Once you are baptized in the holy spirit, you can immediately speak in tongues, which is your proof in the senses' world of the gift of holy spirit from God our Father! See <a href="April 2016">April 2016</a> and <a href="May 2016">May 2016</a> teachings on receiving the holy spirit. Speaking in tongues is infallible proof in the senses' world that you are born-again of God's spirit and have received eternal life. This is how you know by experience you are a child of God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. See the teachings from <a href="2016">2016</a> on this topic.

Let's conclude the first usage of the name Lord Jesus Christ from Acts 11:15-18 with verse 18:

When they [that were of the circumcision contended with Peter] [reference Acts 11:2] heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance [change one's mind] unto life.

Once they (Israel) understood that the Gentiles spoke in tongues and magnified God (see Acts 10:46), they held their peace. They then *glorified* who? *God!* This was the proof in the senses' world that God had given the Gentiles the same holy spirit that He gave to the twelve apostles in Acts 2:4.

It is written in 1 Corinthians 1:10:

Now I beseech [beg] you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

As children of God (see 1 John 3:2), we are supposed to hear and receive the Word of God with humility of mind and believe it. Even if we cannot explain it, even if no one else agrees with it, we are to believe it and operate it in the household of God! And we receive all of this through the **Lord Jesus Christ**.

Let's look at the second usage found in Acts 15:11. We will read Acts 15:5-11 for a complete understanding.

But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, that it was needful to circumcise them [the new brethren], and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

In Paul's day and time, it was circumcision by which the laws of Moses (Old Testament) were upheld. In our day and time it is water baptism from the Old Testament. And even after Pentecost they are still performing water baptism because they want to believe God's Word when it says ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost [holy spirit] (see Acts 1:5). In the Gospels, it was confession of sins and water baptism (see Matthew 3: 6-7). And after Pentecost, it is confession of the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead (see Romans 10:9) and you shall be baptized with holy spirit (see Acts 11:16 above) which is Christ in you the hope of glory (see Colossians 1:27). Continuing with Acts 15:6-11:

And the apostles and elders came together for to consider [perceive, understand] of this matter [logos or word].

And when there had been much disputing [questioning], Peter rose up, and said unto them, men, and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles [reference to Acts 10] by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel and believe.

And God, which knoweth the hearts [the Heart Searcher], bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost [holy spirit in manifestation], even as he did unto us.

And put no difference [made no discrimination] between us [Judeans] and them [Gentiles], purifying [having totally cleansed] their hearts by faith [believing].

Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke [a holding in] upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

But [in contrast] we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved [made whole], even as they.

These are the last recorded words of Peter in the book of Acts. The last verse reminds us that through the grace of who? The **Lord Jesus Christ**. And we shall be what? Saved or made whole.

Acts 15:26 has the third usage of the name our **Lord Jesus Christ**, and we will read Acts 15:23-26 for a richer understanding.

And they wrote letters by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting [literally, "to rejoice"] unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia.

Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled [agitated, distressed] you with words, subverting [disturbing] your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment.

It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul.

Men that have hazarded [laid down] their lives for [in behalf of] the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Here we see this letter to the Gentiles began with a greeting of rejoicing, which blessed the believers and comforted them. After the greeting of rejoicing, the leadership got right to the point of the issue which was that the new born-again believers must be circumcised and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment. This relieved the agitation and distress immediately by affirming that there was no such commandment to be circumcised and keep the law. It was a true blessing that the leadership who were assembled with one accord sent chosen men (our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have risked their lives in behalf of the name of our Lord Jesus **Christ**) with a letter to them which stated Ye must be circumcised and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment.

The fourth usage of the name Lord Jesus Christ is found in Acts 16:31. We will read Acts 16:25-31. The context here is that Paul and Silas delivered a woman possessed with a spirit of divination (see Acts 16:16-18) and were beaten and cast into prison (see Acts 16:22-23).

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bands were loosed.

And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

Then he [the jailer] called for a light [lantern], and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

And brought them out [outside of the prison], and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

And they said, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ [note: the word "Christ" is not in most of the texts], and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

This last verse aligns with God's Word documented in Romans 10:9.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the **Lord Jesus**, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved [made whole].

The fifth usage of the name **Lord Jesus Christ** is found in Acts 20:21; we will read Acts 20:16-21:

For Paul had determined [willed] to sail by [go past] Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost.

And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders [presbyters or elders] of the church.

And when they were come to him, he said unto them. Ye know from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons [times].

Serving the Lord [master] with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations [trials], which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews [Judeans].

And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but [in contrast] have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house.

Testifying [making a full and complete witness] both to the Jews [Judeans], and also to the Greeks [Gentiles], repentance [change of mind] toward God, and faith [believing] toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Who does Paul state believing was to be toward? The **Lord Jesus Christ**. Once again, Paul didn't say to believe on Jesus or baby Jesus. This is important, people! If we want the full gifts from God, if we want to be saved, if we want all the blessings from God, we need to pull ourselves out of the Gospels, and recognize we are in the Grace Administration. We are to believe in and use the name the Lord Jesus Christ as documented in God's pure, perfect, and magnified word!

The sixth and last usage we will examine is in Acts 28:31. To better understand the context, we will read Acts 28:28-31.

Be it known [experientially] therefore unto you, that the salvation [wholeness] of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

And when he [Paul] had said these words, the Jews [Judeans] departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received [welcomed] all that came in unto him,

Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the **Lord Jesus Christ**, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

The phrase the kingdom of God refers to all seven administrations documented in God's Word. Paul was preaching and teaching those things which concern who? The Lord **Jesus Christ**. And Paul was doing this with all what? Confidence, no man [no one] forbidding him. Paul's primary preaching and teaching was regarding the great mystery as documented in Ephesians 3:6:

That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel.

And that great mystery which is Christ in you the hope of glory (see Colossians 1:27). See the <u>January 2019</u> and <u>February 2019</u> teachings on the great mystery. Isn't it wonderful how God's Word comes together? These are not some random books put together; they build on and reinforce the message from God. We are to teach those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no one forbidding us.

In this month's teaching, we have reviewed the first six usages of the name the **Lord** Jesus Christ in Acts which builds on this year's teachings on the words Jesus (see January 2024), in Christ Jesus (see February 2024), and Jesus Christ (see March 2024). This month we learned the usage of the name is important and critical to us in the following ways:

• Forasmuch then as God gave them [the Gentiles] the like gift as he did unto us [the twelve apostles], who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I [Peter], that I could withstand God?

- But [in contrast] we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved [made whole], even as they.
- Men that have hazarded [laid down] their lives for [in behalf of] the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- And they said, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ [Christ is not in most of the texts; read Romans 10:9], and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
- Testifying [making a full and complete witness] both to the Jews [Judeans], and also to the Greeks [Gentiles], repentance [change of mind] toward God, and faith [believing] toward our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the **Lord Jesus Christ**, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

We pray that our **Lord Jesus Christ** be glorified in his saints (the separate one, sanctified, purified ones) and be admired in all those that believe in God's pure, perfect, and magnified Word. We pray always for you, that our God counts you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasures of His goodness. We pray that the name of our **Lord Jesus Christ** be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace, unmerited divine favor, of our God, the fountain of life and light, and the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Word of God is the Will of God.

In the Lord, Ministry of Reconciliation Son of God through Jesus Christ Ambassador for Christ