

Our Savior and Lord

Section 1: Discipleship and Prayer

Introduction: *My Life and Destiny*

Passage: Philippians 3:20

My life and destiny come down to one question. Do I belong to Jesus Christ? To be loved by Him and love Him, to belong to Him and possess Him, to be saved by Him and serve Him as Lord and Master; this is the highest and happiest life. To God be the glory (1 Corinthians 10:31; John 17:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8-9).

Week 1: *The Master*

Passage: Matthew 16:21-23

Jesus, our Savior and Master, accomplished salvation and established his kingdom through suffering, death, and resurrection (v. 21). He lived a righteous life, died a sacrificial death, rose to imperishable life, and ascended to heaven as "both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36). Jesus now reigns with "all authority in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:18); He alone is worthy to be our Master.

Remember, therefore, that His is not an earthly kingdom that operates on worldly principles, but a spiritual kingdom that operates on heavenly principles (vv. 22-23; John 6:15; 18:36).

Christ's kingdom is characterized by God's gracious "redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14), and His servants are consumed with "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17). Sinners saved by Jesus have become disciples of Jesus. He is our Master; we are His possession (Galatians 3:13; Revelation 5:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20).