

Romans 10:9

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. (NIV)

1. Christ is Lord, but “Lord” is not “God.” “Lord” (the Greek word is *kurios*) is a masculine title of respect and nobility, and it is used many times in the New Testament. To say that Jesus is God because the Bible calls him “Lord” is very poor scholarship. “Lord” is used in many ways in the Bible, and others beside God and Jesus are called “Lord.”

- Property owners are called “Lord” (Matt. 20:8, “owner” = *kurios*).
- Heads of households are called “Lord” (Mark 13:35, “owner” = *kurios*).
- Slave owners are called “Lord” (Matt. 10:24, “master” = *kurios*).
- Husbands are called “Lord” (1 Pet. 3:6, “master” = *kurios*).
- A son calls his father “Lord” (Matt. 21:30, “sir” = *kurios*).
- The Roman Emperor is called “Lord” (Acts 25:26, “His Majesty” = *kurios*).
- Roman authorities are called “Lord” (Matt. 27:63, “sir” = *kurios*).

The problem these verses cause to anyone who says Christ is God because he is called “Lord” is immediately apparent—many others beside Christ would also be God (For a concise study of the uses of “lord” in the New Testament, see Appendix B).

2. We must recognize that it was God who made Jesus “Lord.” Acts 2:36 says: “God has *made* this Jesus...both Lord and Christ.” If “Lord” equals “God,” then somehow God *made* Jesus “God,” which is something that even Trinitarians do not teach, because it is vital to Trinitarian doctrine that Jesus be co-equal and co-eternal with the Father. The fact that the Bible says God *made* Jesus “Lord” is an argument *against* the Trinity.

This document was taken from Appendix A of *One God & One Lord: Reconsidering the Cornerstone of the Christian Faith* (copyright 2003) by Christian Educational Services, a division of [Spirit & Truth Fellowship International](http://www.Spirit&TruthFellowshipInternational.com).

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