

II Timothy 4; Lord's Day 1

BELONGING TO CHRIST

- I. The meaning.
 - A. To belong to Jesus Christ is a thoroughly biblical concept.
 - 1. To belong to Christ is a legal, judicial idea.
 - 2. This Lordship is a profession so I confess Him to be responsible for me and is my proprietor and Lord.
 - B. How did I become His property?
 - 1. The sheep are Jesus' sheep by an act of the triune God ordaining the Son to be Jesus and giving the sheep to Him.
 - 2. Secondly, we become His sheep by the act of Christ purchasing and redeeming the sheep.
 - 3. Thirdly, we become His sheep by an act of the Holy Spirit branding (sealing) us as Jesus' sheep.
- II. The comfort of belonging to Christ.
 - A. Comfort implies the presence of an evil which threatens me and a grief which overwhelms me.
 - 1. First, there is the guilt of my sin.
 - 2. Second, there is the corruption of my heart, my sinfulness, the power of sin within me.
 - B. But God gives me knowledge of what He has done.
 - 1. First I belong to my Lord.
 - 2. Second, His Spirit within delivers us from the dominion and power of sin.
- III. The assurance of belonging to Christ.
 - A. We are able to believe and say that we belong to Him over against the constant evidence of our sin and sinfulness.
 - B. This assurance is often lacking because they doubt whether they belong to Jesus.
 - C. Assurance comes in the way of our hungering after righteousness, i.e., striving to walk righteously.