**“The only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords”** *1 Timothy 6:15*

**Introduction**

1. The world has a soft view of Christ.
2. They view scripture as a mere love letter.
3. They do not think Christ cares about or enforces commands in scripture.
4. This results in a complete disregard for any scripture that doesn’t suit them.
5. The name “Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords” denotes Christ’s authority and reign over all.
6. Jesus’ authority is not idle. He doesn’t have it just to have it. It is working and in affect. We will ultimately answer to Him.
7. 1 Timothy 6
8. Potentate, King of kings and Lord of lords.
* Potentate – *dunastēs* – a ruler or officer of great authority; sovereign.
	+ He is the ONLY! (shows His rule to be absolute)
* King of kings and Lord of lords – anyone who wears the title “king” or “lord” is under Jesus’ rule.
	+ His Kingship and Lordship trumps any other.
	+ Lord – *kurios* – supreme in authority.
1. What does the *“Potentate, King of kings and Lord of lords”* require?
* (v. 14) – keep this commandment
	+ Could refer to (v. 12) – fight the good fight.
	+ By implication refers to all of Christ’s commands. I.e. the gospel.
* (v. 3-5)
	+ “*Wholesome words*”
		- Wholesome – *hugiainō* – to have sound health, to be well.
		- Teaching that is sound, healthy, and not corrupt and diseased.
			* Anything not from Christ is not healthy (cf. Romans 16:17-18 – seem good, “smooth” “flattering,” but it is contrary to Christ)
		- What are the wholesome words? 🡪
	+ “*words of our Lord Jesus Christ*”
		- Not only words that He directly spoke….
		- Anything authorized by Him (cf. Colossians 3:17).
		- (Luke 10:1-3, 16 – Jesus sent out laborers. They went about with His doctrine)
	+ *“doctrine which accords with godliness”*
		- Teaching with reverence and respect toward God.
		- (1:3) – *“charge some that they teach no other doctrine”*
			* What doctrine? (1:1) – Paul greets Timothy by confirming his apostleship and that it and the letter was *“by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ.”*
			* Galatians 1:6-9 – There is one gospel.
1. Christ’s Rule as Potentate, King, and Lord is universal.
2. GIVEN ALL authority.
* Matthew 28:18; John 5:16-23 (after had healed a man on Sabboth.)
	+ Christ did not usurp His authority. It was ultimately given to Him by God. (Hebrews 1:5-13 – Greater than angels because He is God and was given authority by God.)
1. Demands obedience from all!
* Titus 2:11-14
	+ Society likes and accepts the false concept of grace that allows one to continue in sin.
	+ The Biblical concept of grace is one that teaches to deny ungodliness, and to pursue righteousness.
	+ The *unmerited favor* is the revelation of God’s will for man. That ultimately allows us to attain salvation.
	+ Notice: v. 15 – Paul gives the order to Titus to *“Speak these things…with all authority.”* Who’s authority? Not Titus’ but Jesus’.
* Even those who are not disciples (Christians) are under the authority of Christ.
	+ Even some BRETHREN venture to say unbelievers are not bound by the NT doctrine. Only those who obey the gospel are. (GLARINGLY and OBVIOUSLY CONTRARY to scriptural teaching.)
	+ Christ established that His word would judge those who didn’t accept it – John 12:42-50 (Those who believed but did not confess. They would be judged by the word.)
		- Hebrews 4:12-13 (no creature hidden)
1. Has Power (authority) to give salvation.
* Acts 2:38 (in the name of Jesus Christ)
	+ 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 (baptized in the name of Paul? Pnt is they were baptized in the name of (by the authority of) Christ.)
		- Acts 8:12, 16; 10:48 – In the name of Christ.
* 1 Peter 3:21-22 (through the resurrection of Jesus...authorities…made subject to Him)
* Christ is the ultimate authority that makes disciples. He has specified that salvation is acquired via baptism – Matthew 28:18-20
	+ If you are not baptized you are not saved – says Christ’s authority.
1. Promises everyone will give reverence due Him.
* Philippians 2:9-11 (God given authority. Every knee shall bow.)

**Conclusion**

1. The only Potentate, King of kings, and Lord of lords is Christ.
2. He has ultimate and unlimited authority.
3. He demands obedience.
4. Each and every individual will answer to His authority in the end.