

The term "Lord" does not have a singular meaning throughout scripture. It is at times applied to God, at other times to Jesus, and sometimes it cannot be interpreted. This list has been prepared with two primary goals. In keeping with the primary goals of the quizzing program, to improve the understanding and applicability of the scripture being studied. And, since competition is used as an incentive to study, to provide a commonly agreed upon interpretation for quizzers, coaches, and officials. This list will help in cases where a quizzier doesn't use the scriptural term in their response to a question. Where the proper scriptural term is required, the Alt. Answer column will be blank.

This list includes all occurrences of the term Lord in its various forms throughout the books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. Each occurrence is evaluated based on the scriptural text and the context of the surrounding passage. Where these are insufficient, the New Beacon Commentaries have been used as a primary reference. In some cases other translations have been used via Bible Gateway. The list has been cross checked to ensure accurate interpretations.

In some cases the interpretation of "Lord" is easy, such text that reads "Lord Jesus" or "Lord our God". When the scriptural answer to a question would be "Lord", the alternative answer may be given by the quizzier and still be counted correct.

Within the Gospels and Acts, the term Lord is often used in dialog. In such cases, phrases such as "the Lord said" or "the Lord replied" typically refer to Jesus as the person involved in the dialog. However, the letters are very light on dialog so there is little to none of this kind of reference. Instead, the focus seems to be on Jesus as the Christ/Messiah. As such, we are using the term Christ instead of Jesus though it is reasonable to consider them equivalent.

As this guide covers multiple books, the following strategy has been adopted to indicate the scriptural reference. The chapter (Ch) column will include the first letter of the book (G, E, P, C, P) along with the Chapter #. In the case of Philemon, since there is only 1 chapter, only the book is indicated providing a way to indicate Philemon (no chapter) vs. Philippians (w/ chapter).

Within these letters Paul uses a phrase like "the Lord's people" as a reference to all Christians. With very few exceptions, other translations use terms such as "saints" or "God's people" in these cases. In these cases we define the term Lord as referring to God, to whom we belong through our faith in Christ. The typical questions involving these phrases will use the Who/Whom interrogative with an expected answer of the group rather than the definition of Lord. For this reason, no alternate answer is provided.

Ch	V	Refers To	Alt. Answers	Why?
G1	3	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
G1	19	Jesus	Jesus	Text: the Lord's [Jesus'] brother
G5	10	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 316. The fourth paragraph clarifies Paul is using Lord to refer to Christ Jesus
G6	14	Christ	Christ	Text: our Lord Jesus Christ
G6	18	Christ	Christ	Text: our Lord Jesus Christ
E1	2	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
E1	3	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
E1	15	Jesus	Jesus	Text: the Lord Jesus
E1	17	Christ	Christ	Text: our Lord Jesus Christ
E2	21	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 110: In Him [Christ Jesus] the whole building ... a holy temple in the Lord [Jesus]. And in Him [Christ Jesus] ... become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.
E3	8	God		The phrase "the Lord's people" is a title that refers to all Christians who have come to God through faith in Christ. Who/Whom questions regarding the group should be answered with the NIV terminology.
E3	11	Christ	Christ	Text: Christ Jesus our Lord
E3	18	God		Another reference to Christians as a group, "the Lord's holy people", similar to E3:8
E4	1	God	God	Most English translations also use Lord. However, Phillips identifies Paul as God's prisoner
E4	5	Christ	Christ	Context: ... called to one hope; one Lord [Christ], one faith, one baptism, leading to God (and Father).
E4	17	Christ	Christ	Context and Commentary pg 161: Paul is speaking with the authority of Christ [the Lord]
E5	8	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 179: the transition from darkness to light is due entirely to Christ the Lord
E5	10	God	God	Commentary pg 180: possessing the mind of Christ and the Spirit of God, the Christians could discern what God expected of them
E5	17	God	God	Commentary pg 183: implies Lord refers to God in this case.
E5	19	God	God	Commentary pg 186: God is the focus of all forms of worship.
E5	20	Christ	Christ	Text: our Lord Jesus Christ
E5	22	Christ	Christ	Context: The entire passage of 21-33 involves the marriage relationship expressed through the example of Christ and the church.
E6	1	Unclear		Commentary pg 204. The phrase "in the Lord" is not included in some of the earliest manuscripts.
E6	4	Jesus	Jesus	Commentary pg 206: training and instruction in the Lord Jesus
E6	7	Christ	Christ	Context and Commentary pg 207: serve masters as if serving Christ
E6	8	God	God	Commentary pg 208: it is God who rewards all people for the good they do (slave or free)
E6	10	God	God	Commentary pg 211: continually seek and utilize God's mighty power
E6	18	God		Another reference to Christians as a group, "the Lord's holy people", similar to E3:8
E6	21	Christ	Christ	Context and Commentary pg 226: dear brother ... in the Lord [Christ]. A fellow christian coworker
E6	23	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
E6	24	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
P1	2	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ

Ch	V	Refers To	Alt. Answers	Why?
P1	14	Christ	Christ	Context/Commentary pg 67 para 2: Paul's chains due to preaching Christ has caused others to become more confident in the Lord [Christ] and preach more boldly
P2	11	a role		Context: every tongue acknowledge Jesus Christ in the role of Lord.
P2	19	Jesus	Jesus	Text: the Lord Jesus
P2	24	God	God	Commentary pg 147: Paul's future is in the hands of God.
P2	29	Jesus	Jesus	Commentary pg 149: in the spirit of the Lord Jesus shown in the story of Christ.
P3	1	God		Commentary pg 159 indicates a link to P2:12-18 and refers back to Psalms. Implication of God as both source and object of rejoicing.
P3	8	Jesus	Jesus	Text: "Christ Jesus my Lord"
P3	20	Jesus	Jesus	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
P4	1	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 203 links this verse with the preceding verses making the reference to the Savior from Heaven, the Lord Jesus Christ
P4	2	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 217: unity ... common relationship to the Lord Jesus
P4	4	God		Context/Commentary pg 219: this verse is echoing P3:1 and its link to Psalms. In whom questions should be answered with "Lord"
P4	5	Christ	Christ	Context/Commentary pg 220: "is near" is likely a reference to Christ's return though Christ's spiritual presences is also a possible meaning.
P4	10	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 238: Paul and the Philippians church are partners together in the service of Christ and the gospel.
P4	23	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
C1	3	Christ	Christ	Text: our Lord Jesus Christ
C1	10	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 274 (para 2-4): though kyrios is used to translate YHWH [God], the early church chose it as the preferred title of Christ.
C1	26	God		Another reference to Christians as a group, "the Lord's holy people", similar to E3:8
C2	6	Christ	Christ	Text: "you received Christ Jesus as Lord" expresses the relationship. In whom questions could be answered with either Christ Jesus or Lord.
C3	13	Christ		Commentary pg 387 para 3: refers back to Christ's instruction of the Lord's prayer where we are to forgive as the Father forgave us - implying God. However, para 6 implies Christ with the explanation that Kyrios in this case reflects the "exalted Lord". Only "Lord" should be accepted in competition.
C3	17	Jesus	Jesus	Text: the Lord Jesus
C3	18	Christ	Christ	Context/Commentary pg 398: "Fitting in the Lord" implies aligning with Christ's model of life
C3	20	God	God	Context/Commentary pg 401 para 5: children's behavior disclosed their standing before God
C3	22	Christ	Christ	Commentary pgs 402-406 discuss these three verses and clarify that, as stated in C3:24, it is the Lord Christ you are serving. In v22, service to masters is to be out of reverence for the Lord [Christ].
C3	23	Christ	Christ	Context/Commentary: see C3:22; v23: as working for the Lord [Christ]
C3	24	Christ/Christ	Christ/Christ	Context/Commentary pg 406 paras 2-3 clarify that Paul's use of the term Lord refers to Christ.

Ch	V	Refers To	Alt. Answers	Why?
C4	7	Christ	Christ	Context: dear brother ... in the Lord [Christ]. A fellow christian
C4	17	Christ	Christ	Commentary pg 423; Archippus' ministry is authorized by Christ ("received in the Lord")
P	3	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ
P	5	Jesus	Jesus	Text: the Lord Jesus
P	7	God		Another reference to Christians as a group, "the Lord's holy people", similar to E3:8
P	16	Christ	Christ	Context/Commentary pgs 465-469: Onesimus is now a Christian, a fellow brother in Christ with Philemon.
P	20	Christ	Christ	Context: As brother's in the Lord [Jesus] i.e. fellow Christians
P	25	Christ	Christ	Text: the Lord Jesus Christ