

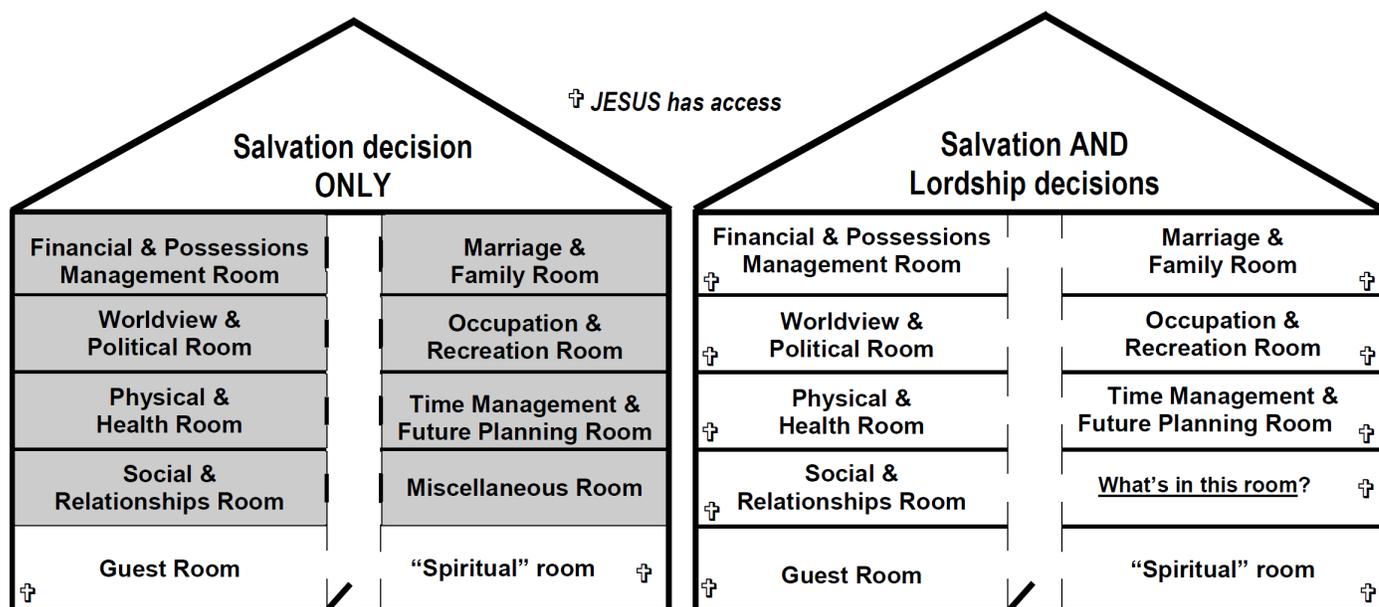
Analogy: The Rooms of Your “House”

† Does Jesus have access to all the rooms of my house?

A story of two believers...

When Jesus knocked at the front door of their hearts (Rev. 3:20) and asked permission to enter, both of these persons gladly received Him, realizing that His absence had been the reason for the emptiness they had always sensed (**the Salvation decision**).

As new believers each was overjoyed that Jesus was in their house and that their sins were forgiven. Each had a new happiness and an assurance of going to heaven. Jesus was allowed to occupy the “Guest Room” – which was always kept clean and presentable for visitors – and He was also allowed to reside in the “spiritual” room – where the believer went to church services, prayed and read the Bible.



But one day soon Jesus asked each of them for permission to make some changes in other areas of their houses, such as adopting new management procedures, rearranging items, throwing out worthless things, and bringing in some new items.

Jesus asked for access to every “room”. **Each believer had a different response.**

Salvation decision ONLY

The believer in the house on the left was reluctant to grant Jesus' request on the grounds that he was not yet prepared for major changes. However, he would thoughtfully consider any suggestions, and might allow some minor changes that wouldn't seriously disrupt his lifestyle and future plans.

Jesus informed him that He (Jesus) is the only One who is really capable of making the correct decisions as to the above changes, since He alone knows what is needed to make the house into a suitable dwelling for God, one that would be usable for His eternal purposes. Jesus clearly explained His good intentions, even guaranteeing that the believer would be more than totally satisfied with the finished product.

The believer replied that while the offer sounded very attractive, he considered himself to be a good judge of the appropriateness and non-disruptive pace of any changes, based on his past experience. He expressed his appreciation for Jesus' presence and blessings, and his desire to make the Guest Room as comfortable as possible for Him.

He assured Jesus that as time went on, he would certainly give Jesus access to other rooms.

"Jesus, I'm thankful You live in my house! I'm really happy to know that I can count on You to be there whenever I find circumstances too difficult to manage."

Salvation AND Lordship decisions

The believer in the house on the right was also reluctant to grant Jesus' request on the grounds that he was not yet prepared for major changes. However, he was aware that he had been **bought** at a great price and therefore Jesus was **the rightful Owner**.

He reasoned, "If Jesus owns me, how can I deny Him access to every room of His house?" (the Lordship decision to acknowledge Jesus as **Master of his life**).

The believer was somewhat apprehensive, as he didn't understand how this decision would impact his future. **But he reasoned that since Jesus had done so much for him already, it seemed logical that He was trustworthy to continue doing what was in his best interest.**

"Jesus, I certainly don't know what You have planned for my life, and to be honest **I have some fears**, but I do understand that You own me, and that I cannot possibly make the best decisions for my life since I don't know what You want to make of me, nor what is involved in that process. I'm thankful that You do know, and I want to trust You alone to make the necessary changes. Thank you for letting me be part of Your plans. Wow!"

*Don't you know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? **You are not your own**, for you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body. (1 Cor. 6:19-20)*

While making the Lordship decision gives the Lord access to all the rooms in my house, He alone decides what needs to be changed. The Holy Spirit will manage these changes as He determines best. This is part of the continuing growth process.

WHAT ROOMS ARE IN MY HOUSE? Can I trust God with ALL the rooms? I should prayerfully consider which "rooms" I have given Jesus access to – **after all, He owns "my house."**

Note: Use the "Rooms of Your House" blank diagram on the next page to complete your own "personal inventory".

Upon viewing the finished product, nobody will ever regret having made the decision to choose Him as the Master of their life.



What Rooms are in MY House?

Use this “Rooms of Your House” blank diagram to complete your personal inventory.

Guest Room <i>Jesus</i>	Spiritual Room <i>Jesus</i>

WHAT ROOMS ARE IN MY HOUSE? Can I trust God with ALL the rooms?

I need to think carefully and prayerfully if Jesus has access to my entire house – after all, He owns it! Are the doors open or closed to all the rooms? Is there a “closet” in one room that I deny Him access to?

I need to pray honestly and sincerely about giving Jesus access to ALL areas of my life.