

“CONFESS CHRIST” (1)

By Keith Greer

Confession is an outward assurance of what one feels in their heart about Christ. What if one is ashamed to confess Christ, can it truly be said they love Him?

“By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.” (1 John 4:2-3)

Our confession tells those who hear us that we truly believe that Jesus Christ came in the flesh (John 1:14), that He willingly gave up His life on the cross because of His love for us (Romans 5:8), and that he was buried and rose again that we might have the hope of eternal life. (1 Corinthians 15:3-14)

Why would anyone not want to confess Christ? Only those who are ashamed or do not truly believe would deny Him. If you believe in Christ, then you will gladly confess, **“I BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SON OF GOD.”** Will anything less be acceptable to God?

We began with the words of Jesus: “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 10:32-33)

In the book of Revelation, we read the same promise. In the letter to the church at Sardis, we read that, “You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.” (Revelation 3:4-5)

Let me address one more fallacy many have concerning **CONFESSSION**. Many believe that “confession” is a ONE TIME event – something done before being immersed in water for the remission of sins. True, but is that all confession means? Think again!

“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.” (Hebrews 10:22,23)

How does one “**hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering**” until the end? When one confesses “Christ” we have acknowledge He is our Master and we are His servant. No longer will one live by their own standards but traded their own will for His. Christ is the one who determines what direction I will take in this life.

People in the world should look at our lives and know that I am a child of the king! How will they know? By living my confession. One who mirrors their confession will be a living example of a believer of Christ.

What does it say if one goes back to living like the world, using speech like the world, and following things contrary to the will of their Master? Hypocrisy is the result. No longer is one being a living example of their "confession."

Let us strive to always remember who we are and who we belong to, 1 Corinthians 6:19,20. Honestly, isn't a home in heaven worth being faithful to one's "confession?" ***