

CONFESSING OUR LORD

1. Text: I Timothy 6:11-16
2. This and the next Sunday's lesson will deal with the biblical concept of confession. Confession relates to Christ and to our sins. This lesson will focus on the first and the next will deal with our sins.

I. The Meaning Of Confession

1. It is actually a very easy word to understand. The Greek word is homolegeo which literally means "to speak alike or the same, and referred to the idea of agreement or consent (especially in law courts)."
2. It means to confess, profess, proclaim, acknowledge, state openly, declare with a "sense of promise," affirmation, commitment, public intention.
3. Matthew 7:23 Jesus says, "I will declare I never knew you." Matthew 14:7 Herod promised with an oath. Titus 1:16 They confess to know God, but their works deny him.

II. The Importance Of Confession

1. Matthew 10:32-33 If we confess Christ before men, He will confess us before His Father. Denial works the same. See also Revelation 3:5.
2. This includes Christ in the fullest sense: all that pertains to His nature, work, doctrine, demands. See also Luke 12:8-9. This is a continuous process.
3. In worship we confess ("giving thanks" in NKJV). See Hebrews 13:15.
4. II Corinthians 9:13 "Obedience to your confession of the gospel."

III. The Relationship Of Faith To Confession

1. Romans 10:9-10 Faith and confession: Heart and mouth.
2. They are connected but can be separate. John 9:22; 12:42 Many believed but they were afraid to confess, or they would be put out of synagogue.

IV. The Special Place Of Confession (In Conversion)

1. "The Good Confession" of I Timothy 6:12-13. What is it? Past tense.
2. Hebrews 4:14 "Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession."
3. Hebrews 10:23 "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering."
4. Key New Testament passage: Matthew 16:16 You are the Christ the Son of the Living God."
5. This is seen in Acts 8:37 at baptism.
6. See also John 6:69 Peter as many leave him.
7. John 11:27 "I believe you are the Christ the Son of God." (Martha)
8. Also I John 2:23; 4:2-3,15; II John 7.
9. Again: Romans 10:9-10

Conclusion: The ultimate confession: Philippians 2:11 "Every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

**A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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