

Have a Glorious Confession

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All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the King James Version. Italics for emphasis are ours.

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INTRODUCTION

The book of Exodus tells how the entire nation of Israel murmured as they were being led out of the wilderness. God's people were depressed and complaining, and they even wanted to return to the days of their bondage in Egypt. Though they had witnessed a number of astounding miracles of God, the people became so negative at one point that they refused to move forward to possess the land the Lord had promised them. As a result, they were forced to spend another forty years wandering the desert until they were ready to respond in faith.

Even today, the people of God murmur against the truth. They remain bound by things they did years ago, and their confession is one of defeat. Grace is not flowing in their souls, and love is not their motivation.

There is no reason for believers to emphasize the negative. We do not have to live in criticism and self-destruction. Instead, as this booklet will

show, we can allow precise light to illuminate our souls and make us bold edifiers for the Lord Jesus Christ as we speak of His glory and let our lips confess His victory.

Chapter One

PUTTING THE PAST BEHIND

“I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,

“Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints;

“That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus” (Philemon 4-6).

What you confess reveals what you are made of. Precise-light believers have the throne of mercy established in their hearts. They are the ones who will receive special honor in heaven because of their great confession on earth. Believers who have internalized categories of doctrine and who are oriented to the grace of God will be given special introductions in heaven. Jesus will take them before the Father and confess that they have precise light in their souls.

There are people today who teach that we all have skeletons in our closets. That is a lie from the pit of hell. Our past is gone! All things became new when we came to Jesus. Furthermore, they continue to be made new as we bring everything to Him. For this reason, I don't enjoy people testifying what happened in their past. The other day I heard someone preaching on the radio about remembering your ashes. His point was that you had to remember your sins so that you would never do them again. I had to pull off to the side of the road and yell, "Be quiet!" We do not need to confess anything less than what the Lord confesses about us.

Even the Old Testament believers understood what to do with ashes. After the sin offering, the ashes were carried outside of the camp to a clean place (see Leviticus 6:11). The ashes represent our sins, and they are in a "clean place," which speaks of a place where they are covered, no more to be seen, blotted out by the Blood of Lamb.

Reach Forth to the Things before You

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto

those things which are before” (Philippians 3:13).

This verse tells me I am to forget the things that are behind. My sins are forgiven, forgotten, and gone forever. I cannot dredge them up again—and neither can anyone else. A counselor or my old sin nature might bring those things up again. But God tells us not to feed on our ashes (Isaiah 44:20).

Is that your confession? Is your confession that your past is gone forever? Listen! Now just past passed by, and tomorrow does not exist. We live in the “eternal is” of God. Jesus is, and He is (present tense) living inside of you. This should be your confession.

A wonderful preacher friend of mine failed the first grade, failed the fourth grade, and failed the sixth grade. They kept bringing him back to school, however, because he was good at football. The higher he went in school, they would just automatically pass him to the next grade. Eventually, he decided that he wanted to preach the Gospel, and he began to go to Bible college, where he eventually earned a doctorate. All the way through Bible college, his confession was Philippians 4:19: “My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

When you hear this man preach, you will notice that he continually confesses God's favor, God's provision, and God's righteousness. He is not a man who feeds on ashes.

Confess Life

Many years ago, a woman in our ministry was diagnosed with leukemia. The doctors gave her just a few months to live. Yet, she refused to confess that she was dying, because she had an eight-year-old daughter to look after. Every day this woman got up and said, "I am not going to die today." Twenty-eight years later, this lady has watched her daughter graduate from high school and from college and head out to the mission field. She has outlived others who had the same disease. She believed the Word of God, and her confession was, "Saving, He saved me. Because of my child and my prayer of faith, He has been healing me all of these years."

Some of us need to confess that God is going to do a mighty work in our households. There are several verses in the Bible that speak of entire households that were won to God. In Genesis 7:1, Noah and his entire household went into the Ark. In Acts 16:15, Lydia's household was saved. In Acts 16:31, Paul declared to the jailer,

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house.”

Maybe your children seem far away from God. Believe what these verses say, no matter how bad things might be. No matter how far off your parents may be into intellectualism, just believe God for your whole house. Believe that when you get to heaven your whole house will be there with you.

Just start confessing the Word of God.

Chapter Two

PRECISE LIGHT BRINGS PRECISE RESULTS

Years ago in our ministry, we were considering the purchase of two properties. Out into the snow we went and we marched around the properties seven times, just as Israel did when they marched around Jericho. We wanted the walls that seemed to prohibit the purchase to fall down.

We got the first property quickly. Two years later, we had the other building as well. The banker vouched for us and got the loan for us and signed as surety for the note. His confession was this: "I have never done this before, and the way churches get in trouble, I have no idea why I am doing this now. But I want to do it."

These remembrances come to me because I am refusing to accept negative confessions. The Word says, "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth." We are to speak only

that which ministers grace to the hearer in edification.

There is so much misunderstanding and misrepresentation and judgment going on in the Body of Christ. Why? Because hearts are not living in precise light from the Word of God.

Men of God have to present the *whole* Gospel of Jesus Christ. Sure, there are some who will not like what the Word of God says about their lives. Paul told the Corinthians that he was praying for a man living in fornication. His prayer was that the man would repent or that his body would be killed so that God could have his soul.

Love Changes Lives

The Bible says in Mark 16:15 that we should go and preach the Gospel to every creature. You don't want to do that? Tell God you don't like it that He put that verse in the Bible. First John 3:16 tells us that Christ laid down His life for us, so we should lay down our lives for each other. You don't like that verse? Tell God. He will listen. He wants us to make our complaints known to *Him*. Then, He can bring in precise light to correct our hearts and minds.

Love suffers long. Love is kind. Love does

not envy. Love thinks no evil. Love bears all things, hopes all things, believes all things, endures all things. Start confessing the truth from 1 Corinthians 13 and see how your life will change.

We are the temple of God. Let us speak of His glory and let us speak of His righteousness. Let us speak of His edification, and let us think no evil.

“And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

“He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day” (John 12:47-48).

We must live by every single word of God. We are sanctified by every word of God, and we will be judged by every word of God. For this reason, I am careful to give chapter and verse from the Bible. This way, anyone who hears my messages can go to the Word and see that I am telling the truth.

Chapter Three

A TESTIMONY TO OUR PERFECT POSITION

In anything we do, the greatest revival comes through what we have in our hearts and what we confess through the Word of God. Remember, “ashes” refers to our sins. Some of the biggest churches in America are telling people to dig up the ashes of their past, and it is just not right. That is not a confession of God’s Finished Work.

Look, if you are confessing your sins to someone, then you are not confessing the Finished Work. The ashes were taken out to a clean place. They are gone. Don’t feed on them anymore.

We know that David committed some great sins. But his confession was this: “Lord, I remember mercy. I remember lovingkindness. I have forgotten all my sins. I don’t have a past. I confess my sins to You, and You are faithful and

just to forgive them and to cleanse me from all unrighteousness.”

“...Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:32).

Our ashes are gone and so are everyone else’s ashes. We don’t write down what we did or what other people did in order to bring things up ten years down the road. According to the Word of God, after we repent, these things no longer exist in the mind of God. He has removed them from His omniscience and omnipresence in a demonstration of His omnipotence.

When the Son sets us free, we are free indeed!

Restored through Right Thinking

Down in Atlanta, there was a pastor who failed. Everyone in the community rejected him, and pastors all over the area refused to have anything to do with him. This man ended up in a psychiatric facility because he couldn’t handle the rejection.

One pastor, however, went to his room. There he found one of our taped messages on forgiveness. He started to play it and told that pastor, “This will heal you. Listen to this and

you can get out of here.”

Soon he was a new man, out of the hospital and back in the pulpit.

Our sins are forgiven, forgotten, and gone forever. We can be restored to our highest position if we are really healed and really mean business with God. Old things are passed away. That is an assertion of dogmatic reality from the Book. All things are new. That is another reality from the Word of God. “New,” according to the original Greek definition, speaks of a condition where absolutely not one thing about our past is involved.

Testify of Victory

This is my testimony: I am seated above with Jesus my Lord. I am hid with Christ in God. I am complete, I am perfect, and I am eternally secure in Him.

God lives in my heart. He is going to perfect what isn't yet perfected in me. God is for me, no matter what I go through. Therefore, I can rebound the moment that I fail. He loves me just as much when I am down as when I am up. He is going to keep me up by His grace and His power (1 Peter 1:5). My confession is that I am eternally saved. I am just as righteous as God is

(see Romans 8:34).

With thoughts such as these, there is no way we should be tired or weary. These thoughts leave me feeling like a teenager! I am happy in my soul, I am prospering in my mind, and I am quickened in my spirit. There is love in my heart.

When we get away from feeding on ashes, we are free to live for God. We are energized as we go forward in the righteousness of God. We will be settled in our position and not bogged down by our condition.

Let us receive precise light and confess the truth about what God says about us. Let's have a glorious confession.

CONCLUSION

Can we honestly confess before God that we have no past? Yes, we can. We can believe all things, hope all things, and bear all things. We do not have to be provoked. We do not have to think evil. We can believe the best and minister grace and edification every time we open our mouths.

Our communication and our confession can promote a recognition and realization of precise knowledge with appreciation because Christ is inside of us. Precise light affects us and it becomes a flowing spice of frankincense from our souls.

Old things are passed away—completed. There are no skeletons in our closets. We do not have to fellowship with the things of old. We edify with our mouths, and we make a difference, because the power of Resurrection comes out of us. We don't speak about how bad we were and what we did. Instead, we confess what

we are in Christ and how good He is.

We believe the confession of Christ toward us. The One who raised Jesus from the dead now dwells in us. Oh, this is the glorious reality of our life with God.