

Confessing Christ

Luke 12 introduces the theme of responding to persecution in Christ's lessons to the crowds and, in particular, to his disciples. Luke 11 concluded with the ominous note that the Pharisees and scribes were trying to trap Jesus in his teaching. In Luke 12, Jesus commands us (1) not to become like those who would persecute us (*vs 1-3*), (2) not to fear those who will persecute us (*vs. 4-7*), and (3) to stand up for Jesus before those who persecute us.

Confessing Christ involves...

1. Identifying with Jesus
 - a. What does it mean to acknowledge Jesus?
 - b. The public nature of confession.

2. Yield to the Holy Spirit
 - a. What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?
Mark 3:28-30; Matt. 12:31-32
 - b. Why can't such blasphemy be forgiven?

3. Trust the Holy Spirit
 - a. Do not be anxious when persecuted.
 - b. Expect that you will be taught words to say!
Matt. 10:19-20; Mark 13:11; Luke 21:14-15; John 14:26

Application:

1. Are your sins forgiven?
2. Do you acknowledge Christ publicly?
3. Do you trust the Spirit to help you daily?