



SBAOC Weekly Update

NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have any news, prayer requests, or events that you would like to have included in this update, please email the information to spurgeonassociation@gmail.com or call us at 785-456-8513.

DISCIPLES CONFESS THEIR SINS

by Augustus Nicodemus Lopes

The Apostle John describes in 1 John 1:8–9 two ways of looking at our sins, and the consequences of each of them. The first is an unwillingness to recognize our sinfulness (v. 8). The second is a humble and honest attitude of recognition (v. 9). It is on this last attitude that we will concentrate this article.

John says, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (v. 9). “Confessing” literally means “to say the same thing,” that is, to agree with what someone else is saying. The context makes clear that to confess our sins means to agree with God’s diagnosis about us that we are sinners and that we have sinned.

Although Roman Catholic doctrine teaches the need to confess to a priest for absolution, the context of our passage makes clear the teaching of John: we must confess our sins to God first, for only He can forgive us and remove our fault. Other passages of Scripture teach us that on certain occasions, it is necessary to confess our guilt to those who have been harmed by our sins, so that the communion that has been interrupted by our error may

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PURPOSE STATEMENT:

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

“If there is no church... should you not commence one?” C. H. Spurgeon

COMMENTS ON OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

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“There are a thousand ways of preaching a good sermon. It may be expository, textual, topical, hortatory, doctrinal, practical, alarming, consolatory, on a long passage or on a short text of Scripture, and yet it may be an excellent sermon. Some have held that we should never use short texts. But some of the best sermons have been preached on a very few words, as, ‘Jesus wept;’ ‘God is love;’ ‘The time is short;’ ‘Have faith in God;’ ‘Lord, increase our Faith;’ ‘Quit you like men;’ ‘Be of good courage.’ There is no more reason for proscribing short texts than long ones, if they are weighty and worthy of discussion.”

William S. Plumer

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be restored (Luke 15:21).

What all true believers experience in confessing their sins is that God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). The word “faithful” has to do with being trustworthy. Faithfulness or trustworthiness is one of God’s attributes. His fidelity consists in always fulfilling what He promises. God will fulfill His promises of forgiveness made to His people, promises that were sealed in the blood of Jesus (see 1:7), when we humbly confess our sins to Him. Thus, we know that the certainty of forgiveness is not a matter of feeling that we have been forgiven but of God’s being faithful to what He has promised. And He cannot fail (2 Tim. 2:13).

John further adds that “God is just” to forgive us our sins (1 John 1:9). The sacrificial death of Jesus is certainly the background to this statement. God will do what is right: He will forgive us and cleanse us from all evil, for Jesus Christ has already paid for our guilt.

John mentions two things that the faithful and just God will do if we confess our sins: forgive them and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. First, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins (v. 9). Forgive in the Greek language, when used in connection with sin, means to “remit” or “cancel.” Second, God is faithful and just to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (v. 9; see v. 7). This last sentence emphasizes another aspect of God’s forgiveness: it removes the stains and consequences of sin in our life.

The forgiveness that God promises us through confession is not an encouragement to continue to sin. The manifestation of God’s forgiveness and grace is for a sinless life. Anyone who abuses confession as an escape valve for sin has certainly never truly been forgiven by God and is deceiving himself.

Dr. Augustus Nicodemus Lopes is senior pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Goiânia, Brazil, vice president of the Presbyterian Church of Brazil, and author of *The Supremacy and Sufficiency of Christ*.

<https://tabletalkmagazine.com/article/2018/06/disciples-confess-sins/>

**UPCOMING
CONFERENCES &
EVENTS**

True Church Conference—
February 14-17. Grace Life
Church of the Shoals, Muscle
Shoals, AL. Theme: *Honoring
the Excellency of Jesus Christ.*
truechurchconference.com

**Southern Baptist Founders
Conference Midwest—**
February 26 & 27, 2019. First
Baptist Church of Fenton in
Fenton, MO. Theme:
*Reformation in Today's
Churches.* Speakers include Dr.
Thomas Nettles & Dr. Owen
Strachan. [https://
sbfcmw.wordpress.com](https://sbfcmw.wordpress.com)

Spring Bible Conference—
April 5-7. Covenant Baptist
Church, Broken Arrow, OK .
Theme: *The Glory of Christ.*
Speakers: Ron Crisp, Laurence
Justice, Curtis Knapp, & Robert
Walker. www.covenantbc.com

**Saved By Faith Youth
Camp—**June 17-21, 2019.
Webster Conference Center,
Salina, Kansas. Speaker: Dr.
Jim Orrick. Theme: *God Is
Sovereign.* For more
information go to
www.sbfyckansas.com or email
trinitybaptistwamego@gmail.com.

**Encouraged to Endure
Conference—**July 25-27,
2019. Second Baptist Church,
West Frankfort, IL. Speakers:
Joseph Mahlaola, Larry McCall,
& John Snyder. Worship
Leader: Tom Clay.



SBFYC 2019

God Is Sovereign

With Dr. Jim Orrick

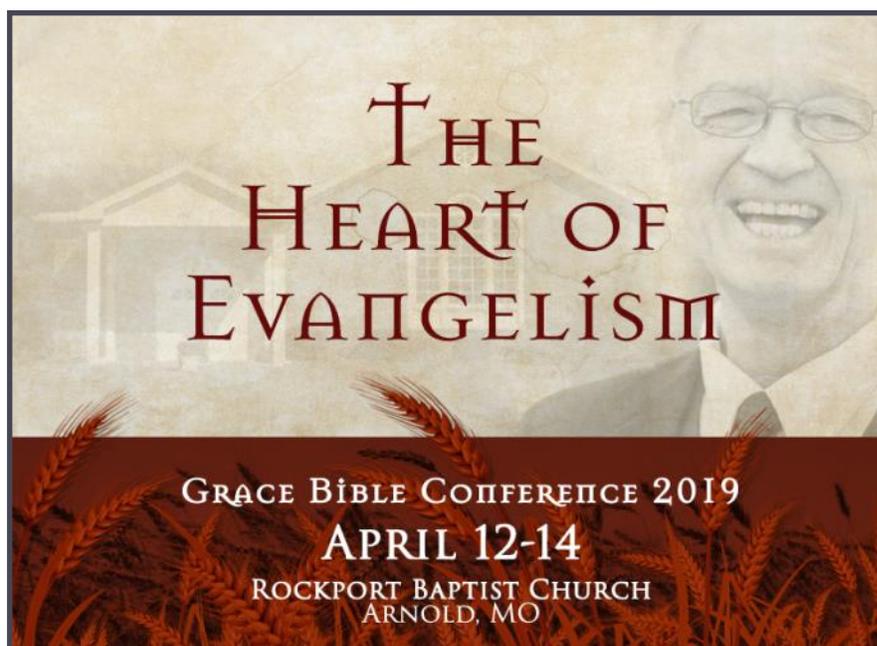
www.sbfyckansas.com

**Saved By Faith Youth Camp
June 17-21, 2019**

At Webster Conference Center, Salina, Kansas

**For more information visit the website or
contact Trinity Baptist Church at
785-456-8513 or
trinitybaptistwamego@gmail.com**

**Saved By Faith Youth Camp is primarily committed to
the faithful teaching of Scripture. Our goal is simple;
pour the Word of God into the lives of students and
watch God do His work!**



**THE
HEART OF
EVANGELISM**

**GRACE BIBLE CONFERENCE 2019
APRIL 12-14**

**ROCKPORT BAPTIST CHURCH
ARNOLD, MO**

**SPURGEON
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
OF CHURCHES**

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PRAYER MEETINGS FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AND REVIVAL

- Fellowship Baptist Church in Onaga, Kansas—5:00 pm on Sundays
- Trinity Baptist Church in Wamego, Kansas—8:00 pm on Saturdays

The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches is an association of Southern Baptist Churches that are united to manifest the glory of God above all. We set out to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. As an association of churches we are bound in mutual covenant to strengthen and support one another - motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture - by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

We are a non-geographic association seeking to include any like-minded body of believers so that together we might better fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our intent is to lean on His instruction and not our imaginations so that He is honored in all that we do. We welcome churches who adhere to the confessions of faith accepted by Southern Baptists throughout their history, including, but not limited to, the Second London Confession (1689) and the Baptist Faith and Message.



Baptist Association of Churches