

God's Plan Of Salvation

Confessing Jesus As The Lord

(Mt 10:32-33)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening
 - a. Greeting...
2. Series of lessons on "God's Plan Of Salvation."
 - a. We have been examining these lessons from the angle of what I need the lost to know.
 - i. They need to know what it means to "Hear/Study God's Word."
 - ii. They need to know what it means to put their "Faith In Jesus."
 - iii. They need to know what it means to "Repent."
 - b. Today we are going to look at "Confessing Jesus as the Lord."
 - i. People need to understand this vital step as well.
3. Like with each step thus far there is a logical progression.
 - a. When studying one will see that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God.
 - b. When one understands this fact they will have a desire to put their "Faith in Jesus."
 - c. When one puts their faith in Jesus they are thus willing to repent and give their life to Him.
 - d. When one makes that great decision it is only natural and logical to "Confess Jesus as the Lord."
4. It is this next logical step where we find ourselves today.
 - a. Confessing Jesus as Lord.

I. Defining Confession

- A. Webster's Dictionary
 1. "to tell or make known (as something wrong or damaging to oneself)"
(Merriam-Webster, I. (2003). Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. (Eleventh ed.). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc.)
 2. "to acknowledge (sin) to God or to a priest"
 3. "to declare faith in or adherence to"
- B. Vines Lexicon
 1. The Greek word "ὁμολογέω" or "homo-lo-geo."
 - i. "to speak the same thing" (Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words. Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.)
 - ii. "to confess by way of admitting oneself guilty of what one is accused of, the result of inward conviction"
 - iii. "to declare openly by way of speaking out freely, such confession being the effect of deep conviction of facts"
 - iv. "to confess by way of celebrating with praise"
- C. In other words when we talk about confessing Jesus as Lord we mean one...
 1. Shows their loyalty in confession.
 2. Celebrates & honors Christ in confession.
 3. Makes a promise with their confession.

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II. One Shows Their Loyalty In Confession

- A. This is done by one not being ashamed to "admit" they know Jesus
 - 1. **Ro 1:16** "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."¹
 - 2. **Ro 10:9-10** "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (NKJV)
 - 3. **Mt 10:32** "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven." (NKJV)
- B. This is done by one not being ashamed to "show" their loyalty
 - 1. **Mt 10:37-39** "So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven"
 - 2. **I Jn 1:7** "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."
- C. We need to help people see the great loyalty there is in their confession to Christ

III. One Celebrates & Honors Christ In Confession

- A. We celebrate Jesus as the Son
 - 1. **Ac 8:36-37** "Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" 37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."
 - 2. **He 13:15** "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name."
- B. We honor Jesus with our praise
 - 1. Notice how the Father is praised.
 - i. **Rv 4:8-11** "And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" 9 And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, 11 "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

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2. Notice now how the Son is praised.
 - i. **Rv 5:9-14** "And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, 10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." 11 Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" 13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" 14 And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

C. We need to help people see the need to celebrate and honor Christ in their confession

IV. One Makes A Promise With Their Confession

- A. This is a promise/oath to strive to always be loyal
 1. **Mt 6:33** "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."
 2. **Mt 19:28-29** "Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life."
- B. This is a promise/oath to always strive to celebrate & honor Christ
 1. **I Pt 2:5** "you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."
 2. **Ps 107:22** "And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!"

CONCLUSION

1. Our willingness to confess Jesus is vital to our salvation and thus necessary in the plan that God has established that brings about ones salvation.
 - a. **Mt 10:32** is a key verse in understanding this great confession.
 - i. "In Matt. 10:32 and Luke 12:8 the construction of this verb with en, "in," followed by the dative case of the personal pronoun, has a special significance, namely, to "confess" in a person's name, the nature of the "confession" being determined by the context, the suggestion being to make a public "confession." Thus the statement, "every one ... who shall confess Me (lit. "in Me," i.e., in My case) before men, him (lit., "in him," i.e., in his case) will I also confess before My Father ... ," conveys the thought of "confessing"

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allegiance to Christ as one's Master and Lord, and, on the other hand, of acknowledgment, on His part, of the faithful one as being His worshipper and servant, His loyal follower; this is appropriate to the original idea in homologue of being identified in thought or language." (Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words. Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.)

2. Question: Was your confession a statement of recognizing Jesus as your Lord and you being His servant? Are you keeping your promise you made?
3. Invitation
 - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent by confessing your sins to God that He may forgive you and dedicate your life/time back to Him.
 - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
 - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required to become a child of God or Christian according to God and God only.
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
 - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
 - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**