

**WHY CALL YE ME LORD LORD AND DO NOT THE THINGS THAT I SAY?
(Romans 10:9-10)**

I. The distinctiveness of the confession.

- A. It is strictly a profession of one's belief in Jesus as the Messiah.
- B. It is not always said in the Bible in the same way.
 - 1. Andrew - John 1:41.
 - 2. Philip - John 1:45.
 - 3. Nathanael - John 1:49.
 - 4. The woman at the well - John 4:29.
 - 5. The Samaritans John 4:42.
 - 6. Peter John 6:69.
 - 7. Martha - John 11:27.
 - 8. Thomas - John 20:28..
- C. In all of these, the only thing that is confessed, though each worded differently, is the fact that Jesus is the Son of God.
- D. That is all in which one must confess belief.

II. Notice some demonstrations of confession.

- A. 1 Timothy 6:12.
 - 1. Paul appeals to Timothy's past while encouraging Timothy to pursue eternal life.
 - 2. At some point, Timothy was told what to do to be saved by Paul in his home town of Lystra.
 - 3. He was a young man who came and made a good confession.
 - a. In what did he confess belief?
 - b. The same as those mentioned above - Jesus as the Son of God.
 - 4. Now he is a grown man doing the work of the Lord.
 - 5. Even now, he is not to forget that confession he made as a youth.
 - 6. It was to be fresh on his mind in order to fight the battles he was facing.
- B. Acts 8:37.
 - 1. A man is on his way home from Jerusalem after the great feast and so zealous he is reading from Isaiah on his way home and stops his chariot to do so.
 - 2. He is asked if he understands and admits he does not.
 - 3. We are told that from that passage in Isaiah 53 Philip preached to him Jesus.
 - 4. We don't know what Philip said, but after a time, the chariot is stopped and he wants to know if there is anything hindering him from being baptized.
 - 5. He is told if you believe with all your heart you can be.

6. He immediately states what he has come to believe: "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."
7. Philip proceeds to baptize the man because the message that was preached was believed and now was ready to be obeyed.

III. What is declared in the confession.

- A. Someone might say, anyone can get up and say they believe in Jesus as the Son of God.
- B. That is true, but this is not merely a repetition of words.
- C. There are certain things declared by the one confessing.
- D. He first declares that he recognizes that Jesus is the Messiah and is divine.
 1. That was the meaning when Peter said it
 2. The Jews understood this to be the case as well (John 9:22) - this led to banishment from the synagogue, therefore one who makes this confession must believe in the Messiahship of Jesus.
 3. His divinity is expressed as well (1 Timothy 6:13).
 - a. Jesus was to die because He made Himself the Son of God (John 19:7).
 - b. Jesus never denied this to Pilate.
 4. More than 40 times in the New Testament Jesus is given the title Son of God and this recognizes that fact.
 5. John wrote his gospel account that we might believe that Jesus is the Son of God (John 20:30-31).
- E. It also declares the acceptance of the authority of Jesus.
 1. This is what Romans 10:9 says.
 2. Jesus said all authority had been given Him.
 3. This is to accept Jesus as Prophet, Priest and King.
 - a. As prophet we are to hear Him.
 - b. As priest we confess our acceptance of Him as our sacrifice for our sins.
 - c. As king, He rules in the throne room of our heart and over our bodies that we have made a living sacrifice for Him.
- F. It also declares our allegiance to Christ.
 1. John 12:42-43.
 - a. Here is conviction but no confession.
 - b. They believed in Jesus but would not express allegiance to Him because of fear and pride.
 2. When one confesses Christ, it is the 'I will' of the marriage vow

IV. The design of the confession.

- A. The confession is to be made with the mouth (Romans 10:10) before men (Matthew 10:32) in order to be saved (Romans 10:9).
 - 1. Timothy did it before many witnesses.
 - 2. It is not done by signing a card or raising a hand when only the preacher is looking.
 - 3. It is a public confession for all to see and hear.
 - B. We should do it because we owe it to Christ to confess Him.
 - 1. Think of all that Jesus did for us (2 Corinthians 8:9; 1 Peter 2:24).
 - 2. Cyrus took captive an Armenian princess and condemned her to death.
 - 3. Her husband came to the camp and offered his life for hers.
 - 4. The king was so moved by the devotion of the husband that he freed both of them and restored the man's powers over his country.
 - 5. Soldiers were standing nearby and they noticed the princess's eyes were filled with tears and asked if it they were for thinking of Cyrus.
 - 6. She said, I was not thinking of Cyrus but for the one who would willingly have died for me.
 - C. We should do it for the sake of unbelievers.
 - 1. No man lives to himself Paul told the Romans.
 - 2. It is the sharing of a treasure the confessor has found.
 - D. We owe it to ourselves to confess Christ.
 - 1. It will be a source of strength in the hour of trial.
 - 2. It gives incentive to press toward the mark as it did Timothy.
- V. The direction of the confession.**
- A. It directs us to a life of service (Matthew 10:32-33).
 - B. It directs us to a life of continual confession of this belief.