

CONFESSION OF SIN



*If we confess our sins,
he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

—1 John 1:9

Too often the confession of sin is superficial, and often it is quite neglected. Few Christians realize how necessary it is to be sincere about the matter. Some do not feel that an honest confession of sin gives power to live the life of victory over sin. But we, in fellowship with the Lord Jesus, need to confess with a sincere heart every sin that may be a hindrance in our Christian lives.

Read what David said: *"I acknowledged my sin unto thee...I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin...Thou art my hiding place...thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance"* (Ps. 32:5, 7). David spoke of a time when he was unwilling to confess his sin. *"When I kept silence...thy hand was heavy upon me"* (vv. 3-4). But when he had confessed his sin, a wonderful change came.

Confession means not only that you confess your sin with shame, but also that you hand it over to God, trusting Him to take it away. Such a confession implies that you are wholly unable to get rid of your guilt, but by an act of faith you depend on God to deliver you. This deliverance means, in the first place, that you know your sins are forgiven, and secondly, that Christ undertakes to cleanse you from the sin and keep you from its power.

O Christian, if you are seeking to have fellowship with Jesus, do not fear to confess each sin in the confident assurance that there is deliverance. Let there be a mutual understanding between the Lord Jesus and yourself that you will confess each sin and will obtain forgiveness. Then you will know your Lord as Jesus, who saves His people from their sins. (See Matthew 1:21.) Believe that there is great power in the confession of sin, for the burden of sin was borne by our Lord and Savior.