

**Preacher's Pen**  
**Sunday, March 26, 2006**

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"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 10:32-33)

In our study together this morning, we will explore these words of Jesus and understand that for one to be able to expect to spend eternity in Heaven, one must obey this and all other commands of God.

We have previously studied about belief/faith, repentance, and now confession. Remaining in this series examining how the Bible (rather than traditions or doctrines of man) teaches when a person can first begin to wear the name, "Christian" is that of baptism and then living obediently even unto death.

There are many applications of the word confess that are different to that of scripture. There are even different forms of the word that have been created by mankind and his invented religions that do not equate to the confession of which Jesus and His apostles taught.

As a word confess means simply to acknowledge something to be true. Strong's reveals that in scripture and context above confess means, "to say the same thing as another". So, Jesus above is declaring that if you disagree with Him (and His Sonship of the Lord God, Jehovah) you will not spend eternity with Him.

There is one other scriptural use of the word confess and that is with regard to our sins (I John 1:9; James 5:16). However, the lessons of our present series is regarding the first meaning; we are to confess Jesus and Him crucified, buried, and raised.

Be careful, not only do the demons believe and tremble, but they have also acknowledged that Jesus is the Son of the true and living God (see Matthew 8:29). In other words, just as with all the other steps of obeying the Gospel of Jesus Christ, confession alone does not equal salvation.

We seek to follow the example of Paul as he exhorted the Elders of the Ephesian Church, to "...declare unto you all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:27).

In Christian Love and Service,  
Lyndal