

MEDITATIONS ON THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE

....*"This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart from [always be in] your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful [take heed] to do according to all that is written in it; for THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have success".... Joshua 1:8 NASB*

March 27th

THE PLACE CONFESSION HOLDS

* The church has never given this vital subject a place in its teaching, and yet answered prayer, the use of Jesus' name, and faith are utterly dependent upon it.

"Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our [confession]" (Hebrews 3:1).

Christianity is called our confession, and in Hebrews 4:14 we are told to "hold fast our [confession]." The old version reads "profession," but the Greek means witnessing a confession of our lips.

You understand Romans 10:8–10: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." You see the place that confession holds in salvation. It holds the same place in our faith walk.

Christianity is a confession. It is our open confession of what we are in Christ, of what Christ is to us. Our faith is gauged by our confession. We never believe beyond our confession.

It is not a confession of sin; it is the confession of our place in Christ, of our legal rights, of what the Father has done for us in Christ, what the Spirit has done in us through the Word, and what He is able to do through us.

There is a grave danger of our having two confessions. One would be the integrity of the Word, and the other would be of our doubts and fears. Every time we confess weakness and failure and doubt and fear, we go to the level of them. We may pray very ardently and very earnestly and declare in our prayers our faith

in the Word; and yet the next moment we question whether He heard us or not, for we confess we have not the things for which we prayed. Our last confession destroys our prayer.

One man asked me to pray for his healing. I prayed for him, and then he said, "I want you to keep on praying for me." I asked him what he wished me to pray for. He said, "Oh, for my healing." I said, "Prayer will be of no value. You have just denied the Word of God." The Word says, "Those who believe will lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover; and whatever you ask in My name, that will I do." (See Mark 16:18; John 14:13.)

I prayed the prayer of faith, and he denied it. By his confession, he annulled my prayer and destroyed the effect of my faith.

Your confession must absolutely agree with the Word and if you have prayed in Jesus' name, you are to hold fast your confession. It is easy to destroy the effect of your prayer by a negative confession.