

Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

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In Him

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IN HIM

by Kenneth E. Hagin

PART I

OUR CONFESSIONS RULE US

A spiritual law too few of us realize is: Our confessions rule us. When we use the word *confession* people instinctively think of confessing sin. And the Bible does say, “*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). But that is the negative side of confession. The Bible has much more to say about the positive side—the confession of our faith.

ROMANS 10:9-10

- 9 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.

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10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

This does not refer to confessing sin. This is confessing Jesus. In his heart man believes, and with his mouth he confesses that Jesus is his Lord.

PROVERBS 6:2

2 Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

What we say is our confession. And our confessions—the words we say—rule us. Jesus said they did.

MARK 11:23

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Let's meditate on these words of Jesus a little more, "*Whosoever shall say . . . and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.*"

Did Jesus know what He was talking about? Or are these just the words of an irresponsible dreamer? No! They are not the words of a dreamer! Jesus meant exactly what He said. And what did He say you shall have? He said you shall have *what you say*.

If you really believe a thing in your heart—positive or negative—and you say it with your mouth, you will really have it. Jesus said you would. It is always *with the heart man believes*, and *with the mouth confession is made unto*, any of the provisions of God.

Notice how these two phrases from God's Word say the same thing in different words, "*With the mouth confession is made unto . . .*" (Rom. 10:10), and "*He shall have whatsoever he saith . . .*" (Mark 11:23).

HEBREWS 4:14

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession (confession).

The same Greek word translated profession here is translated elsewhere in the *King James* as confession. Modern translations render it confession. "Let us hold fast our confession,"

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Christians are told here. What is the confession we are to hold fast to—the confession we are to maintain? It is the confession of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ—the confession of our faith in God our Heavenly Father—the confession of our faith in the Word of God.

The majority of Christians—though sincere—are weak. This is because they never really dared confess what God's Word says about them. They have never dared confess that they are what the Bible says they are—that they are who the Bible says they are—and that they have what the Bible says they have.

In fact, many maintain a wrong confession instead of holding fast to a right confession. A wrong confession is a confession of defeat, of failure, and of the supremacy of Satan. They are always talking about what a time they're having with the devil—what a battle they're having—what all they're going through—how the devil is keeping them from success—keeping them sick—holding them in bondage. And as long as they talk like that, according to what Jesus said, that is what they are going to have.

I know folks wouldn't do it if they really knew what they were doing, but that kind of

confession is an unconscious declaration that God, our Heavenly Father, is a failure.

God is not a failure! Defeat is not of God. When you talk about defeat you're talking about the works of the devil. God did not intend that the church should be defeated. He said that the gates of hell would not prevail against the church! (See Matt. 16:18.)

Faith Demands Expression and Testimony

Testimony is a part of the faith life. If you want to develop robust faith—then continually tell what the Lord is doing for you. The more you talk about it, the more real He becomes to you. The less you talk about it, the less real.

Faith is like love. It is of the heart, the spirit. And like love, it lives and finds its joy in the continual confession of it. In the natural, the more a husband and wife confess their love for each other, the more it grows.

If you'll notice carefully the life of Jesus you'll find that from the beginning of His public ministry until He is led to the cross, He is ever confessing WHO HE IS . . . WHAT HE IS . . . and HIS MISSION IN LIFE.

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For instance He said, *“I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father”* (John 16:28). This was a fourfold confession. It covers His life from the Incarnation to the Ascension.

One of the boldest confessions Jesus made was, *“He that hath seen me hath seen the Father”* (John 14:9). What a bold confession! *“If you want to see the Father, look on me.”* In John 12 it is recorded that He said, *“He that seeth me seeth him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness”* (vv. 45–46).

Let me say it again. Jesus constantly confessed WHO HE IS . . . WHAT HE IS . . . and HIS MISSION IN LIFE.

“Yes,” someone might say, “but that was Jesus.”

I know. And the Bible teaches that Jesus left us an example and that we should follow in His steps. You should constantly be confessing who you are. On no, not who you are physically—the son or daughter of John Doe who lives on such-and-such street. No! But who you are according to the Word of God. That’s the confession we’re to hold fast to.

1 JOHN 3:1-2

- 1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God . . .
- 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God.

ROMANS 8:14, 16-17

- 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
- 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:
- 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ.

We are children of God! Sons of God! We're heirs of God—joint-heirs with Christ! We joyfully confess our relationship with God. And in what way are we related to Him? We're born of God. Children of God. He is our very own Father. We are His very own children. We dare to take our place as sons and daughters of God and confess who we are!

**Find Out What God's Word Says About
You and Make That Your Confession**

People often ask me about studying the Bible. Although I have many suggestions, here is the one I present above all others everywhere I go.

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As a Christian, as a believer, read through the New Testament—primarily the Epistles. (The Epistles, you see, are the letters written to you the believer. They are written to the church.) As you read, look for all expressions such as, “in Christ,” “in Him,” “in Whom,” “through Whom,” etc. With a colored pencil underline these expressions. You will find approximately 140 such expressions, most of them in the Epistles. Some of these, however, don’t exactly tell you something you have “in Christ.” For instance, Paul’s greeting in one Epistle is, “I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.” That has the expression “in Christ” but doesn’t tell you anything that is yours because you are “in Christ.”

You will also find other scriptures which convey the same message, but do not use the specific phrases, “*in Him*,” etc. Yet they tell you *who you are* or *what you are* or *what you have*, because you are “*in Christ*.”

Now, when you find these scriptures—write them down. Then meditate on them. Begin to confess them. Begin to say with your mouth, “This is who I am, and this is what I am, and this is what I have, in Christ.”

For, you see, faith's confessions create realities. As far as God is concerned everything you have or are "in Christ" is so. He has done it. Everything the Bible says is ours, is ours legally. The Bible is a legal document, sealed by the blood of Jesus. However, it is your believing it and your confessing it which makes it a reality to you. God wants us to enjoy and know the reality of what He has provided for us—and His Word tells us how to do it!

As an example, we see that God has provided the new birth for us. And His Word tells us how that provided salvation becomes real to us. Even though we sometimes talk like this, "God saved So-and-so last night," we know that from God's viewpoint He didn't just save that person the previous night. He saved him when Jesus was raised from the dead. The man just accepted his salvation "last night" and the redemption God had provided nearly 2,000 years before became a reality to him.

HEBREWS 9:12

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

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Jesus never has to do that again. He has already done it. The provision has been made. And Romans 10:10 tells us how we obtain the reality of salvation in our individual lives.

ROMANS 10:10

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

It is always with the heart that man believes—and with his mouth he makes his confession unto. When you believe a thing in your heart and confess it with your mouth—then it becomes real to you. Faith's confessions create realities.

As you read some of the “in Christ,” “in Him,” “in Whom,” etc., scriptures, they won't seem real to you. It may not seem as though you really have what these scriptures say you have *in Him*. But, if you will begin to confess with your mouth, because you do believe God's Word in your heart, “This is mine. This is who I am. This is what I have,” then it will become reality to you. It is already real in the spirit realm. But we want it to become real in this physical realm where we live in the flesh.

So remember as you find these scriptures to:

1. Underline each scripture.
2. Write it down.
3. Meditate on it.
4. Make a confession of it.
5. Begin to say it with your mouth.