



YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!

What God says about what you say

IN Favor video teaching series

#7. ROMANS 10:9-10

⁹ That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

We often use these verses in sharing the plan of salvation. But when doing so, our emphasis has usually been on the *believing* aspect, rather than on the *confessing*. We have stressed faith in God, trusting him for eternal life, accepting Jesus into our hearts, and so on—all of which are biblical and important. But we may have overlooked the place Paul gives to our words ... *when he is explaining how to be saved!*

The word translated “confess” (ὁμολογέω, *homologeō*) literally means “to say the same thing as,” or to agree with. It is used to describe sharing a common view, and conceding something is true. Here the person we are agreeing with is God himself; when we “confess,” we are *saying the same thing* that God says about Christ and about our sin.

Paul makes it clear that this confessing is done “with our mouth.” This is not a thought, not an opinion, not a silent prayer; *it is saying out loud “Jesus is Lord”* and thus being saved.

Similar references

Romans 10:13 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved,"

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Matthew 10:32 "Everyone therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. (NAS)

Luke 12:8 "And I say to you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man shall confess him also before the angels of God; (NAS)

1 Corinthians 12:3 Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:11 It is written: " 'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.' "

Philippians 2:11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Hebrews 4:14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. (NAS) And see Hebrews 10:23



The Bible teaches that you get saved because you believe and say something—not just because you believe ... Not only does your heart have something to do with your salvation, your *mouth* has something to do with it, too. WORDS have something to do with it. The Bible does not say simply that if you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved. You will not be saved just because you believe it. Notice in the 10th verse the phrase, ‘*with the mouth.*’ *With the mouth* confession is made unto salvation.” *Kenneth E. Hagin*

To believe with one's heart means to commit oneself at the deepest level to the truth as revealed and experienced. Confession is giving expression in words to that conviction. Phillips says of the one who believes, "It is stating his belief by his own mouth that confirms his salvation." Those who genuinely accept the truth of Jesus' resurrection and therefore his deity are willing to go public with their conviction. That kind of commitment will never lead to disappointment. Calvin's picturesque comment regarding those who would consider the confession of the mouth as superfluous is that "it is quite nonsensical to insist that there is fire, when there is neither flame nor heat."^{NAC}

But a man must not only believe in his heart; he must confess with his lips. Christianity is belief plus confession; it involves witness before men. Not only God, but also our fellow men, must know what side we are on.^{DSB}

THINK ABOUT IT ...



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