

The Divine Exchange

True repentance will be demonstrated by obedience to God, Love for God, His word and His people, and reparation where possible.

In the Bible we see the prophetic act of giving the sinner a new robe to wear as the old garments are removed. In the Bible robes were a symbol of identity and belonging. When we confess, we are removing the accusation of the enemy and false narrative we have spoken over ourselves of guilt and shame and allowing God, to cover us with His truth about our adoption as children of God and heirs with Jesus.

Ephesians 4:22-24 – put off your old self – put on the new – to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Once we have confessed our sins, they are no longer ours. They belong to Jesus, He has paid for them with His blood and they belong to Him and in exchange he gives us a robe of righteousness. [Isaiah 61:10](#),

The Prodigal Son – Father robes the son - Luke 15:11-32

Zechariah's vision of Joshua – Zechariah 3

Also look at Matthew 27:28, Genesis 41:42,

We receive God's forgiveness by faith and not by works – It is by God's grace we are saved. It is dependant on Him and not us.

[Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

[For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.](#)

Confession

What is Sin?

God calls everything that would harm us, those around us and prevent us from close relationship with Him and each other, sin.

So, what is the confession the Bible teaches us?

Definition: Confession literally means to say the same thing as God says... it is to agree with what Jesus is saying about us and our sin in the light of His word – we recognise it is sin and we call it sin. We agree we are discussing our sin.

The Bible offers two types of confession:

- 1) A profession of faith – we recognise we are sinners and separated from God. We recognise our need of Him and we repent, literally turnaround from the way we have been living and we begin to follow Jesus. We know we are rescued from this day on and our salvation is certain.
- 2) THEN there is the ongoing confession of sin – to follow Jesus daily and walk closely with Him. We need to be in a constant place of watching and listening, observing our thought life and actions closely so that we regularly confess our sin and repent. We are disciplined to be like Him and we become powerful and effective as believers of Jesus.

Atonement refers to the forgiving or pardoning of sin in general and original sin through the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, enabling the reconciliation between God and man. Jesus makes a way for us to have relationship with Him.

Biblical History: Leviticus 16 (The prophetic act of the High Priest Aaron)

God calls Aaron to make an annual sacrifice to atone for the people of Israel's sin. A scapegoat is provided to carry all sin away and another goat is slaughtered as a sacrifice in a prophetic act of God cleansing them and carrying away their sin.

The fulfilment of atonement for our sin: Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23 and John 19.

Jesus takes on the sin of the world (everyone's sin including yours) and fulfils the blood sacrifice required to cleanse us from our sin. This enables us to have relationship with God and become free from guilt and shame.

Confession requires two essential elements:

- 1) Our humility in agreeing with God about our sinful state. (Reliant on us)
- 2) God's love and mercy towards us and His willingness to blot out our sin. (Promised by God as response to our humility - 1 John 1:9 New International Version (NIV) 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.')

Our Humility:

- 1) **Wait upon God to expose and throw light on our sin. Read His word, invite the Holy Spirit to remind us and ask God to search you.**

1 Corinthians 11:28, 2 Corinthians 13:5, **Psalm 139:23&24**

Wait on God and/or read the following: 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:3-6, Revelation 22:12-16, Matthew 25:41-46, Romans 1:26-31, **Ephesians 4:25-31**, Colossians 3:5-7, and 2 Timothy 3:1-7

Explore if there is anything you feel conviction over – something you thought/did/said... something you chose not to do... someone you hurt through being careless/making wrong assumptions/inconsiderate...

- 2) **Acknowledge how great and perfect God is.**

Jeremiah 10:6, **Psalm 86:8**, 1 Chronicles 29:11, Isaiah 55:9

- 3) **Acknowledge His great love, mercy, and faithfulness. Worship Him.**

Deuteronomy 7:9, **Psalm 86:15**, Zephaniah 3:17, John 3:16, Psalm 34:17-20, Joel 2:13

- 4) **Be humble and mourn how sin has damaged your identity.**

2 Chronicles 34:27

Examples: **Tax Collector praying - Luke 18:9-14**, Isaiah encounters the Holy - Isaiah 6:5-9, David after adultery with Bathsheba - Psalm 51, Job realising his lack of understanding – Job 42:1-6.

- 5) **Acknowledge how your sin has damaged your relationship.**

Romans 3:23, **Isaiah 59:2**, Psalm 22:1, Matthew 27:46, Ephesians 2:12

- 6) **Acknowledge His perspective of your weakness and failing and agree with Him.**

1 John 1:8-10, Jeremiah 17:9, Romans 3:10

- 7) **Repent and say sorry and choose to walk the other way.**

Proverbs 28:13, Acts 3:19, 2 Chronicles 7:14, **2 Peter 3:9**, James 4:8, Revelation 3:19

God's loving and merciful heart towards us.

Our forgiveness and healing is dependent on God.

Andrew Murray – Waiting on God – Day 12 – Keeping His Ways

'... Why then not come with everything evil you feel in yourself, every memory of unwillingness, unwatchfulness, unfaithfulness, and all that causes such unceasing self-condemnation?... find in waiting on God your deliverance. Your failure has been owing to only one thing: you sought to conquer and obey in your own strength. Come and bow before God until you learn that He is the God who alone is good, and alone can work any good thing... receive from God each moment the inworking of His mighty grace and life, and waiting on God will become the renewal... to walk in His paths and never faint.'

- 1) **Ask for the Holy Spirit to help.**

John 14:26, John 14:15-17, **Romans 8:26-27**, Acts 2:38, Isaiah 11:2, Zechariah 4:6, 1 John 2:1.

- 2) **Align yourself to God's truth.**

Psalm 8:4-5, Psalm 139:13-16, 2 Corinthians 5:16-18, Romans 8:1, Romans 10:9-10, **1 John 3:1**

- 3) **Thank Him for His forgiveness and choose to forgive yourself. Worship Him**

1 Peter 2:9, Luke 15:7, Romans 8:1, Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 8:34,

- 4) **Seek to make amends.**

Matthew 3:8, Luke 3:11, James 2:26, Acts 26:19-20, 1 John 5:1-2, 1 John 3:16-18, Ephesians 4:28, Luke 19:8

- 5) **Share it with someone and ask them to pray for you. Give them permission to follow up.**

James 5:16