

“The Confession of Christ”
A Study of the Book of Romans
Pastor Tim Allen

Key Truth: The only saving response to the gospel is confession and faith.

The word “confession” isn’t something we regularly think about. And when we do, it’s usually about confessing our sins. Yet, Paul talks about a different kind of *confession* here in Romans chapter 10: a Confession of Faith. A Confession of Faith is a statement of one’s beliefs. Baptists traditionally have embraced a Confession of Faith, which broadly sums up the doctrines we believe. That can go from simple to quite detailed. Here, Paul lays out a simple Confession of Faith in verses 9-10. This entails confessing Jesus as Lord and doing so verbally (with our mouth, v. 10). This confession is tied to faith in Jesus Christ and is applicable to both believing Jews and believing Gentiles. It is a verbal validation of what we believe in our heart.

DISCUSS

Read **Romans 10:5-13** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled **“The Confession of Christ.”**

DIG IN

1. A Word of Faith (Romans 10:5-8)

In verse 6, Paul describes a person who doesn’t believe that Jesus was incarnated into the world. Why does faith in Jesus Christ require a belief that he has already come the first time?

In verse 7, Paul describes a person who doesn’t believe that Jesus was raised from the dead. Why does faith in Jesus Christ require a belief that he has resurrected?

In verse 8, Paul refers to the Old Testament Scriptures (“what does it say?”). Why must our faith be grounded in the words of the Bible?

In what ways does “the word of faith” (v. 8) relate to other expressions of the gospel, like “the word of Christ” (v. 17), “the word of the cross” (1 Corinthians 1:18), and “the words of eternal life” (John 6:68)?

2. A Word of Confession (Romans 10:9-10)

Why is a verbal confession of Jesus’ lordship necessary for salvation?

What do you notice about this simple outline of Romans 10:9-10? What is the central point here? Why is that important to our understanding of Confessing Christ?

- A. Confess (v. 9a)
- B. Believe (v. 9b)
- B’. Believe (v. 10a)
- A’. Confess (v. 10b)

In what ways does confession of Christ verify and verbalize our faith?

3. A Word of Calling (Romans 10:11-13)

Why is it necessary that we call on the name of the Lord (v. 13)?

DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?