

Christianity is called “The Great Confession”

Heb 3:1 **Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession (or profession), Christ Jesus,**

Heb 4:14 **Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.**

“To hold fast” means to “To stay fully committed to” “Our confession or profession” – According to Strong's concordance the Greek word here is “Homologia” which comes from the two root words “Homo” meaning “same” and “logia” meaning “words spoken”. So to profess means to “speak the same words” or “say the same thing as”. And of course it is implied that it's referring to saying the same thing as God. Or in other words speaking the words of God. Therefore the expression “let us hold fast our profession or confession” literally means “**let us stay fully committed to saying the same thing as God, that is, saying God's words**”: About conversion and sanctification, about faith and love, about sin and righteousness, about provision, protection and health, and about heaven and hell.

How is Jesus Christ the High Priest of our confession? Jesus Christ, when we know Him after the Spirit, is the word of God. He becomes the High Priest of our confession, or what we say, when we profess (say the same thing as) what the word of God says. Because when we speak the word of God, by the Spirit of God, we are confessing Jesus Christ. That's how He becomes the High Priest of our confession and that's how we are saved:

John 1:1-14 **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...In Him (the word) was life, and the life was the light of men...As many as received Him (the word), to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:**

Rev 19:13 **...His name is called The Word of God.**

Rom 10:10 **For with the heart one believes (the word) unto righteousness, and it is by our confession (of the word) that we are saved.** NKJV/TEV

Col 1:27-28 **...Christ (the word) in you, the hope of glory. Him (the word) we preach...**

When Jesus is High Priest of what we say our words change our and others circumstances

Our natural human tendency is always to talk about our current circumstances. In other words “to say what we have”, whereas God wants us “to have what we say” that is, when we say what He says, so He can bring it to pass. This is not denying the truth or existence of our current circumstances (as some cults do) but instead invoking a much higher level of truth (God Himself is truth) by saying what He, the truth, says about the circumstances.

Rom 4:17) **...God calls those things that be not as though they were (we must too:)**

Ps 107:2 **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so; He redeems you from your enemies.**

Joel 3:10 **Let the weak say I am strong.** Pro 12:18 **The tongue of the wise is health.**

The words I speak, which evidence what I am believing in my heart, if they are or agree with God's word, can and will change both my own and other peoples lives - forever.

Mark 7:25-30 **For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of Him (Jesus), and came and fell at His feet: she besought Him that He would cast the devil out of her daughter. But Jesus said to her, "Let the children (the Jews) first be filled: for it is not good to take the children's bread, and give it to the dogs (the heathen)". And she answered and said to Him "Yes Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs". And He said to her, "For this saying go your way; the devil is gone out of your daughter" (Her words saved her daughter).**

If we believe God's words, we must speak God's words for our circumstances to change:

Mark 11:23 (Jesus) **Assuredly I say to you, That whoever shall say to this mountain, Be removed, and be cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things which he says will come to pass; he will have whatever he says.**

Matthew 17:20 (Jesus) **Because of your unbelief: for assuredly I say to you, If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, move from here to there; and it will move; and nothing shall be impossible to you.**

In these scriptures Jesus confirms that just a little bit of faith (mustard seed) in my heart – and that faith always comes when I hear God speak His word to me – just a little of that kind of faith will enable me to speak to my situation and cause it to change. Jesus spoke to the wind, waves, trees, dead bodies, Satan and to people. He never spoke about the circumstance but always spoke what God said, and the circumstance changed: - take up your bed and walk, cast your net on the right side, stretch forth your hand, peace be still.

But what if I don't yet know what God says about a particular situation? What can I do other than just talk about the circumstance? Not if we want the circumstance to change. We would be better off to say nothing (God says: be quick to hear but slow to speak) until we have diligently sought Him and found out what He has to say about it. Then, as we are led by His Spirit, we can say the same thing as He says and, by Him, cause what we say in His will to come to pass. Otherwise our words could be evil, if we say something that is the exact opposite of what He says. And if those evil words come from our hearts (that is, we believe them) then we may become the means of causing that evil to happen.

Prov 23:7 **For as he thinks in his heart (and then speaks) so is he (he brings it to pass)**

This is what the 10 spies did. God had spoken about the Promised Land, that it was good and that He had given it to Israel to possess. They knew what God had said. But the circumstances they saw in the Land didn't match up with what God had said (ever been there?) So they came down on the side of circumstance in total unbelief of what God had said. God therefore called their circumstance based words "an evil report" for they called what God had called "Good" a place of defeat and therefore "Evil" and called God a liar.

There is a great battle to gain the mastery over our confession. If I confess that "My God shall supply every need of mine" I must not nullify that confession by saying, "Yes, God

supplies my needs, but I cannot pay my rent, I cannot pay the telephone bill. " Faith holds fast to the confession of God's Word. Sense Knowledge holds fast to the confession of physical evidences. If I accept physical evidence against the Word of God, I nullify the Word as far as I am concerned. MY faith can never grow beyond my confession.

The sin of offering our opinion on spiritual matters when we have not yet heard from God:

My heart always knows when I speak about a spiritual matter whether I'm unshakably sure about it, because God has personally spoken and revealed His word to me on the matter. Or whether I'm just mouthing empty presumptuous words on something that deep down I know I am not settled about. Indications that I'm merely giving an opinion are these: I will talk from my head and not my heart, that is, from my flesh and not my spirit. I will have no conviction or passion about what I'm saying because my words are not really part of me. My words will be void of God's life and will sound hollow even to me as I speak them. Since the Holy Spirit isn't anointing my words there will be no awareness of God's presence as I speak, nor will I experience Christ's love for the person I am speaking to.

Jer 23:18-22 **But can you name even one...who knows the LORD well enough to hear what He is saying?If they had listened to Me, they would have spoken My words and turned My people from their evil ways.** NLT

2 Tim 4:2 **Preach the word of God. Be persistent, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage...with good teaching.** NLT

Our whole purpose as Christians is to bear the fruit of God's words so others may eat them:

God's ministry for every born again Christian, without exception, is for Christ to be the High Priest of their confession, so that they communicate Him, through God's words, to others. This is what it means to bear fruit, our lips speaking God's words made alive by the anointing of His Spirit. The hearts of others can then hear and "eat" (meaning, believe) these words, so that they can be born again or grow in their spiritual knowledge of God.

John 15:5-8 (Jesus)...**He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. By this My Father is glorified, so you will be My disciples.**

1 Cor 1:21 **...It pleased God through the (seeming) foolishness of the words preached to save those who believe** (those words, with their hearts - and then say so).

John 21:17 (Jesus)...**Do you love Me?...Feed My sheep** (with My living words).

Prov 10:21 **The lips of the righteous feed many...**(with the living words of God)

1 Cor 12:3 **...Speaking by the Spirit of God** (by Whom our words are made living words)

The sin of staying silent and not confessing God's Words when prompted to do so by God:

There is a popular deception that the gospel of God is a personal thing and should be kept to oneself. Why do some born again Christians buy into this lie? it may be because to preach God's word doesn't fit either their "he-man self image" that sees it as un-manly,

or their “good-girl self image” that wants to be liked by everybody and fears disapproval.

This then is a Christian who has God’s life in them but who won’t share that life with a relative, neighbor or friend, yet knowing that they are spiritually dead or dying, because of sin, and likely destined to spend eternity in the place of all the spiritually dead, Hell. Is there anything “manly” about such a Christian man, or is there anything “good” about such a Christian woman? And neither understands their own danger of having the blood of that lost or dying soul on their hands, because they wouldn’t speak the truth to them.

Acts 20: 26-31 (Paul) **...I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears... I am innocent of the blood of all men** (because he was willing to speak).

The sin of presuming to speak God’s word, but not preaching Christ, the grace of God:

When I am undisciplined in what I say and don’t make the constant distinction between what I truly know versus what I merely have an opinion on, then I will increasingly speak only by presumption. I will presume I know God’s words because I can memorize them and I mentally agree with them. But the words are not in my heart, they have not been revealed to me personally by God’s Spirit, I haven’t been transformed by them, and they are not Christ to me. This is how I fall into the sin of presumption, instead of from my heart my mouth speaking Christ, God’s word, to impart grace to another person’s heart.

Ps 19:13 **Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins....Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.**

Eph 4:29 **Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.**

Luke 4:22 **And all marveled at the words of grace that came forth from His mouth.**

Mental familiarity with the Bible makes us un-teachable, prideful, immune to God’s grace:

When I continue to speak by the sin of presumption, my intellect may become thoroughly familiar with a host of scriptures but my heart will be a stranger to almost all of them. Since I presume to know much more than I actually do know - for I only know scriptures God has revealed to me, which I have believed and that reside in my heart – therefore I become un-teachable and immune to instruction. Consequently I will hardly ever ask a sincere question that seeks a deeper knowledge of God, either directly of God, or of someone who may know God better than me. This is nothing but pride and it means God is actually resisting me and I likely will now embrace and spread all kinds of false doctrines.

Pro 19:27 **Cease listening to instruction, my son, and you will stray from the words of knowledge** (and become open to the twisting of truth and false doctrines).

Pro 20:5 **Counsel** (God’s words) **in one man’s heart is like deep water, another man of understanding will draw it out** (because he’s thirsty and by his questions).

James 4:6 **...God resists the proud, But gives grace** (more of His word) **to the humble.**

If I confess God's words from my head and not my heart it's not Christ but it's now the law

If I won't allow God to bridle my tongue from giving my opinions and speaking scriptures by presumption, so that I only speak words He has given me; I will become a Pharisee. I will be quick to apply the Bible to others as law using my head knowledge of scriptures, not recognizing that I probably know less than a handful of scriptures in my heart. I will be unable to bear fruit and thereby impart God's grace and life to others through my words. Because (a) Being in the flesh, I'm no longer connected spiritually to Jesus, the vine, and (b) I have hardly any of God's words of grace, fruit, abiding in my heart, that I can speak. Nor am I likely to pray a believing prayer, since there is virtually no word of truth in me on which faith can be based. All I have is the dead letter of scripture in my head, which can't win souls to Christ nor make converts into disciples, so I can't fulfill Christ's commission.

Jam 1:26 **If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.**

John 15:4 (Jesus) **Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.**

John 15:7 **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire (in prayer), and it shall be done for you**

We Christians are to be fountains of living water, fruit bearers, speaking God's utterances

1 Pe 4:11 **Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who speaks the utterances of God;**

God needs willing sons and daughters through whom He can speak His wonderful words of life to others. But those words must first reside in the hearts of His messengers. These Christians will have already bridled their tongues from speaking presumptuously and from volunteering an opinion on matters that their hearts have yet to be established in. But Oh the blessing as the water of life begins to flow by the Holy Spirit from the hearts of these disciples of Christ, and their words increasingly minister the eternal life of Christ to others:

John 7:38 (Jesus) **He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water** (God's living words – the grace of God).

John 4:14 **...But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life** (Christ, the abundant, eternal life).

Rev 22:17 **The Holy Spirit and the bride (the Church, the true Christians) say "Come" Let each one who hears them say the same, "Come" Let the thirsty one come - anyone who wants to; let him come and drink freely of the Water of Life** (flowing from the mouths of true believers). AMP/TLB

This is how Jesus Christ becomes the Apostle and High Priest of our confession. Our words are no longer ours but His, to minister the grace of God, Himself, to all who hear:

Ps 19:14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.**