

CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE.

INTRO.:

A. Read text: **1 John 1:9.**

B. Regarding the text:

1. Sin is transgression of God's law (**1 John 3:4**).
2. Sin left alone will result in the loss of our soul.
3. There are ***only two types of sin***: those that are forgiven and those that are not.
4. Today, we will examine confession and repentance.

DISCUSSION: IN THIS LESSON WE OBSERVE...

I. DEFINE REPENTANCE AND CONFESSION.

A. Repentance – Sorrow resulting in a change of heart shown by a change in direction.

1. **Matthew 21:28-29.**
2. **Acts 2:38; Acts 3:19.**

B. Confession – To acknowledge; to admit, declare our wrongs.

1. **James 5:16.**
2. **1 John 1:9.**

II. WHAT SOME BELIEVE ABOUT REPENTING AND CONFESSING. (WE HAVE HEARD PEOPLE SAY...)

A. God can forgive without our confessing and repenting.

1. They teach that if we die before repenting, God can forgive anyway.
2. That cannot be true... Scripture teaches otherwise.
 - 1) **Matthew 18:15-17.**
 - 2) **Luke 13:3.**
 - 3) **Luke 15:10.**
 - 4) **Luke 17:3-4.** Note the "IF."
 - 5) **Acts 8:22.**
 - 6) **Revelation 2:5, 16, 21-22; 3:3, 19.**

B. Some will not acknowledge the sin: "***If I have sinned...***"

1. Confession is the acknowledgment of one's sin.
2. David said, "I have sinned" (**2 Samuel 12:13**).

C. "***In time people will forget.***"

1. They believe that after a period of time of doing good their past wrongs will be taken care of without the need of repentance.
2. People may forget but God does not (**Ecclesiastes 12:14**).

D. "***God loves us so much; He will forgive us.***"

1. Basically, this is the "once saved always saved" position or "salvation by grace only" position.
2. This view holds that God did not mean what He said in **1 John 1:6-10.**

III. SORROW SHOULD MOVE MEN TO REPENTANCE.

A. Some are sorry for a given thing but will not confess and turn from the sinful act. (Never acknowledging the sin.)

B. **2 Corinthians 7:9-10.**

C. Many will stand in judgment who have never confessed and repented of their sins.

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. **Matthew 7:21-23.**

B. **Revelation 2:10.**

C. God requires ***BOTH*** confession of sin and repentance of those sins.