## The Good Confession

I Timothy 6:12, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."

We want to consider what God's Prophet for this hour said about it:

Now, remember, every redemptive blessing has already been purchased. The price is paid. There's only one way that you'll ever be able to receive it, that's to believe it and to accept it. He's the High Priest of our confession (*Heb. 4:14-16*). The Hebrew says there, the Hebrew letter says, "He's a High Priest of our profession." To profess and confess is the same thing, of course. Therefore, He cannot do anything for us until first we confess that He has done it. And then when we confess it, then He is the High Priest, a Mediator to go to work on that and make it right. So we pray, trusting in God today, in His kindness and mercy, that He will give to us His abundance of grace. And now remember; you must accept it.

A sinner might come here at the altar as a young man or woman at the age of fourteen years old, and they'd bring you your meals here, and you'd cry to the Lord until you were ninety years old, you'd never be saved. You've got to first accept what He done for you. See? You've got to accept it yourself. Then when you accept it, then He is a High Priest, Mediator, to make intercessions upon your confession of what you believe. [1]

Then He can't do nothing until first we confess that He's done it. See, you get down here at the altar and pray all night, wouldn't do you a bit of good until you believe that He forgives you, then you stand up. You lived once way down here in the muck of sin. Now, you young converts, now you believe you're saved, don't you? (Mark 16:16). Then you raised up here, you raised a little higher. What does that? Your faith, because you believe you're a Christian now; you'll live above that thing now. See? Now, if you want to raise a little higher, just have more faith, 'cause it's unlimited; just keep on...

Well, oh, an impossible can be made real. All things are possible to them that believe ( $Mark\ 11:22-24$ ). That's right. "If you say to this mountain, 'Be moved,' and don't doubt in your heart, but believe what you say comes to pass, you can have what you say." [2]

Now, watch, these seventy, they walked out because it didn't agree with what they believed to be right (*John 6:60-66; Luke 10:17-20*). We haven't got no thought coming; it's what He said. You deny your own thinking. You just say what He says. That's really confession. "Confession" means "to say the same thing."

If I confess that a certain thing taken place, I say the same thing that taken place. That's what real confession is; and He's the High Priest of our confession - **saying the same thing God said.** See, that makes it right, 'cause you're just repeating God's Word. [3]

You're not using your own thoughts; you're using His thoughts. "Let the mind that was in Christ be in you" (*Phil. 2:1-11*). See? Think His way of thinking; say what He says. "Confession" means "to say the same thing." Confess is to confess the same thing, say the same thing. Then don't confess your own mental conception. Be born again (*I Peter 1:23*) and confess His Word, confess what He said. That's confession. Say, "By His stripes, I was healed" (*Isaiah 53:4-5*). By His stripes, I have a right-by His wounds, right now, I have a right for salvation. I have a right for the Holy Spirit. He promised it to me. Said, 'It's in you and your children, and them that are far off, and as many as the Lord our God shall call." (*Acts 2:37-41*). I believe it. It's for any generation. [4]

I just wonder about those people. I found them in healing services. I've seen people come to the platform, totally blind. After being prayed for and be healed and read the Bible, walk down there and praising God. And meet them in six months and be just as blind as they were in the first place.

Now, Divine healing is just as strong as your faith is, and just as lasting as your faith is.

It depends on where your faith stands. Your salvation is good as long as your confession is good. But when your confession drops, then your salvation's gone. For He is a High Priest setting at the right hand of God to make intercessions on your confession, that's what happens (*Rom. 8:31-34*).

Now, here's what it is, friends. See, if you get It, you're a Christian because you believe that you're a Christian. And it's all settled because He's a High Priest (*Heb. 3:1-6*).

Now, notice. He's the High Priest of your confession (*Heb.* 7:25-27). Get what I mean? What you confess you are, that's what you are. Any man will never live any farther, or any higher, than what he believes he's a living.

You take a man that's talking about drinking all the time. He talks about drinking; he thinks about drinking; he drops right down into that category, becomes a drunkard. A man that's always thinking about vulgar things; he looks at vulgar things; he thinks of vulgar things; he reads vulgarity... [6]

You'd never live any higher than you confess that you are. It's your confession that saves you. He who confesses Me before men, him will I confess before My Father and the holy Angels (*Matt. 10:32-33*). When you say you're sick, you're sick. Now, I'm not preaching Christian Science now. I'm preaching the power of God (*I Cor. 1:18*), and the Holy Spirit bears record of it. See?

But here's what it is. You accept Him because that you feel that He saved you. And you go telling people, testifying of it, and believing your testimony, and it works righteousness. It'll do the same thing for healing (Rom. 10:9-10). [7]

He's not only the Word, but He's the High Priest of His own Word (Heb. 2:17-18). How could we doubt it? How could we walk to Him and not believe that we receive what we ask for? (Matt. 7:7-8). For He is the Word and the Intercessor of the Word. The Logos became Word (John 1:1-3,14), and the Word made flesh; and the same flesh that was the Word, received up into glory, and now's the High Priest making intercession by Himself to His Word. [8]

Now, remember, it isn't how much you cry; it isn't how much you repent; it isn't how loud you can cry to God; it isn't how sincere you can be; **it's how much faith that you have when you come to Him. He doesn't save you on the merits of your prayer. He doesn't save you upon the merits of your righteousness. He saves you upon the merits of your faith.** It's by faith are you saved, and that through grace (*Eph. 2:8-9*).

Now, you come to the altar realizing that you're a sinner and you are sorry for your sins. You repent of what you've done. And you can stay there and cry for weeks in and out. And it would never save you until you believe in your heart that you are saved. Is that right? Then you confess it (1 Tim. 2:3-6).

Now, **He can't do nothing for you until you confess it.** Is that right? For **He is the High Priest of your confession.** He can do nothing... "You confess Me before men, I'll confess you before the Father." Is that right? "**What you say I done down here for you, that's what I say the Father that I have done for you.**" He's the High Priest. You get that young man? The High Priest of your confessions.

Now, here He is setting here to make intercessions on my confession, and I have a right to confess that He's done anything for me that's in the redemptive blessings. There you are.

What were the redemptive blessings? "He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquity, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, with His stripes we're healed." (*I Peter 2:24*). Is that right? **That's every believer's possession.** That's mine. [9]

Then confess. What? "By His stripes I'm healed; by His grace I'm saved; by His promise, I'll obey, and I shall be filled with the Holy Ghost." (Acts 5:32). There you are. If you're convinced that He keeps His Word, but first you've got to be convinced. [10]

And the whole armour of God is supernatural (*Eph. 6:10-20*). What is the armour of God? Love, joy, peace, long suffering, goodness, meekness, gentleness, patience, faith (*Gal. 5:22-23*). So all the natural work is done as the sacrifice of Christ. We just believe it. It's by faith. Nothing you have to see, nothing you have to feel; you got to believe it. Jesus never did say, "Did you see it? Did you feel it?" He said, "Did you believe it? Did you believe it?" (*Mark 9:23-24; Matt. 8:13*). [11]

If you believe God will save you, you've got to believe it and then confess it that He has done it, before it will come... [12]

Healing is based upon your faith. God's identification is based upon the promise of His Word, but your faith in His identification is what heals you. If you don't, no matter, the holiest man in all the world could stand here and pray all day long, it wouldn't do one bit of good until you believe it, emphatically, yourself. Jesus might be standing here Himself, in the incarnate body, lay hands upon you, and still you would not get healed. How many knows that? "Many mighty works He could not do because of their unbelief." That's Scripture. [13]

Every sin in the world was forgiven when Christ died at Calvary. You believe that? There's a Blood atonement on the altar for the sins of the world. **But it'll never do you any good until you accept it and confess it.** And He can never work on it until first you say, and have by faith accepted it.

Then He's a High Priest to make intercessions upon our confession. See, He can't move, He's bound; there's nothing He can do, until first you accept it and confess it; and from your heart you believe it. Then it touches Him, and then He can go to work on it and make intercessions for you. There you are. [14]

Just some people are ashamed. After they accept the Lord Jesus as Saviour, they go out and they're ashamed to confess Him. Many times they accept Him as their Healer, and they go out and are ashamed to confess Him. You should never be ashamed of Him (*Mark 8:38*). No matter what takes place, you should be right up in front to stand on your testimony.

For God can only save you as you testify. He can only heal you as you testify. He is setting at the right hand of the Father to make intercession upon your profession. It isn't how loud you cry, how hard you beat the altar, how many good deeds you do; it's your faith that saves you.

And if you'll confess it with your lips **and coming from your heart,** He goes to work as a High Priest setting at the right hand of the Father to make intercessions upon your confession. Hebrews 3:1, He cannot do one thing for you until first you believe it and accept and confess it to be so.

And the people today, they'll go out, say, "Well, I felt better last night, but today I'm so bad I just can't hardly stand it." **That's just exactly when you lose your confession and drop right down.** No matter who you are, how saintly, how godly you are, you're a minister, clergyman, or you're a deacon, or whatever you are, or you've been a Christian for fifty years, if you go out of here tomorrow and lose faith that you're a Christian and start telling people you're not a Christian any more, you're backslid. You're gone. [15]

You go right out of this building testifying that you're saved. What if you go out of the building saying that, "Well, I don't know." Then you're not saved. **But God will make your body obey your confession.** See? And He's the High Priest of our confession. Before you can be healed, you have to confess it first. You have to believe that you are healed. And then when you believe you're healed, God makes your body obey your confession. So now when you come by here, just let it be settled; say, "God, this is Your command. I believe I'm healed,"... [16]

Now, when you become a Christian, you come and confess Jesus to be your Saviour. You believe it? When you go outside, your critic friends, they say, "I don't see no difference in you." But you believe there is. **Then you go acting like there is.** Then after while everybody knows there is.

See, Jesus is the High Priest of our confession. **He can't do nothing for you, till first you accept it and confess that it's already done. And He will make your body, your nature, come in subject to His Word.** Do you understand now? **You must act just like it's already done.** [17]

And when the inspiration of the Holy Spirit is here to inspire you, remember, God will make your body come into your confession. If you

say you're a drunkard, and want a drink. Don't worry, you'll soon be one. If you say you're a sinner, and want to sin, you'll be right into it.

If you say you're a Christian and believe it all along, your testimony will bring you right into it. If you believe in healing, and believe that God has healed you, confess it, and God will make your body obey your confession, for He's the High Priest of your confession; setting at the right-hand of the Father now with His own Blood to make intercessions for any confession upon anything that He died for.

And He died to rid sin. And sickness is the result of sin. "He was wounded for our transgressions, with His stripes we are healed." Remember that. Have faith. Don't waiver. Stand on it. [18]

Notice, let us remember, He also created our bodies. And won't our bodies have to obey Him? Amen. You surrender your thoughts to Him, surrender your life to Him, surrender your faith to Him, and watch that body obey what He says. If you're a drunkard and you can't quit drinking, surrender that life to Him and, watch, you'll drink no more. If you are a habitual smoker, and tried to give it up and can't do it, just surrender that to Him and watch what happens. He'll make that body come back in subjection to the Word. Yes, sir. But you've got to surrender it to Him. You've got to believe Him. He made our bodies; they obey His will also. Do you believe that? If you're a Christian, you have to. [19]

Here was a lady, and when the Lord had pronounced on this little woman that she was going to be all right, she was healed, well, **she went outside thanking the Lord.** So she thought she could just go on, be all right. And she goes and tries to eat. Oh, did she get sick. So then in a couple of days, kept getting worse, and she'd try to eat and force it down her, vomit it up, bleeding.

The people in the neighborhood began to think after a couple of weeks... And her husband said, "Honey, I believe that you testifying like that, you're going to bring a reproach upon the cause of Christ."

And she said to her husband, "If that man stood there, just a man under inspiration, and told me the things that I had done in my life, told me what caused the ulcer and what happened, and what condition it was in, and told me, 'THUS SAITH THE LORD,' **the vision showed that I was going to be well,** do you think I would doubt that?" She said, "Reproach or no reproach, it would be more reproach for me to doubt it." How right she was.

And one morning after, I guess, five weeks or more, she was washing the dishes one morning. The children had gone to school, and all of a sudden she had a real strange feeling strike her. She thought, "What is this?" She felt real blessed. So then she thought, "Well, maybe it's just the Lord

blessing me." She was a very fine Christian woman, young woman about in her thirties. And she got real hungry. And she said, "Oh, how I would like to be able to eat just a little piece of toast." And she set down and ate the toast. Just in a few moments it come up, would've done it. But that time it stayed down, felt good.

Well, she thought, "You know if that's so, I believe I'll just eat some of these oats here that some of the children left in their plate." So she sets down and eats the oats. Now, you know what oatmeal would do on an acid stomach. And she waited about fifteen or twenty minutes, and it never bothered her. So she sat down and had her a real gastronomical jubilee. She fried her some eggs, got her a cup of coffee, just really enjoyed it. And she waited about twenty or thirty minutes. And usually in five minutes she done threw it up.

And she felt so good. She said, "You know, I just can't keep this good thing to myself." So down the street she went to a neighbor that had been prayed for the same night, who had a growth on the side of her neck. Well, her husband was retired. They'd gotten up late. And when she got to such a house a few doors below her, she thought they had the Salvation Army in there. She never heard so much shouting and going-on in all her life. She thought, "Well, what's wrong?" She runs in and said, "Lydia, what's the matter?"

She said, "Oh, Bertha, I want to tell you. I just got up. I was laying there. We'd been awake for a little while; I felt a **real strange feeling.** And we shook even the sheets on the bed. We can't find that lump. It's gone."

Well, she told her her story. And they just got all enthused, and got themselves somebody in the neighborhood and come to one of my meetings which was about a thousand miles away. And they gave the testimony.

Now, what happened? The Angel of God, Who had pronounced that blessing had passed through the neighborhood confirming it. You see? What if they would've given up? Don't give up! You believe! Stay with it! God will bring it to pass. See?

**Sometimes God isn't spontaneously on things.** How many knows that Daniel prayed, and it taken, I believe it was twenty-one days, the Angel said, 'fore he could get to him, but He heard him (*Daniel 10:7-13*).

And every time that you move towards God with faith, God knows it. See? Just don't worry. **Be real full of faith and just keep believing.** [20]

Now, healing is not something that you just say, "Well, yeah, I believe it. I believe it." Now, that's all right. If that's the best you can do, just mentally, or just say, "Yes, I see it. I believe that; I accept it." Then if you accept it on those bases, keep saying it over and over. Say it out loud. Say it over and

over; just keep saying, "I'm healed. I'm healed." Say it until actually you believe it. And when you believe it, then it's going to take place.

Don't have a negative testimony. Every time when you confess, "Well, I still feel bad today. I guess...", you go right straight back in the same rut that you were in the beginning. There's not a man or woman in here that is baptized with Holy Spirit but what would start your confession, "I believe I've lost the Holy Spirit. I believe It's gone from me...", you'll go right down; you'll never... [21]

And He promised you, that is, "If you could believe that it would happen." If you can't believe It, it just won't happen. Now, I can't make you believe, neither can you make yourself believe. God has got to give it to you. It's a gift of God, to believe. Not your faith, God's faith (Gal. 2:20). Your intellectual faith might believe it fine, but unless the faith of God is down in your heart... See, your intellectual faith can accept, to do that. And just keep believing it with all your heart until God does reveal it to you. See? Just keep believing it until God does reveal it (Rom. 10:8-10).

## Reference:

- [1] "Calling Jesus On The Scene" (64-0319), par. 6, 168
- [2] "Message Of Grace" (61-0827), par. 177
- [3] "Three Kinds Of Believers" (63-1124E), par. 153-154
- [4] "Christ" (55-0221), par. E-49
- [5] "Hidden Life With Christ" (56-0213), par. 20-23
- [6] "Ministry Explained" (50-0711), par. E-55
- [7] "Believest Thou This?" (50-0716), par. E-11
- [8] "The Great And Mighty Conqueror" (57-0421S), par. 27
- [9] "The Manifestation Of The Spirit" (51-0717), par. E-19
- [10] "Convinced Then Concerned" (62-0610E), pg. 27
- [11] "God Keeps His Word 2" (57-0307), par. E-57
- [12] "My Commission" (51-0505), par. E-35
- [13] "Influence" (64-0315), par. 312
- [14] "We Would See Jesus" (62-0712), par. E-17
- [15] "At Thy Word, Lord, I'll Let Down" (54-1207), par. E-46-47
- [16] "Show Us The Father And It Will Satisfy Us" (59-0419E), par. E-71
- [17] "Show Us The Father" (55-0625), par. E-2
- [18] "Who Is God" (50-0815), par. E-35
- [19] "Calling Jesus On The Scene" (63-0804E), par. 101
- [20] "Life" (58-0519), par. E-8-11
- [21] "Accept God's Gift" (53-0219), par. E-9
- [22] "Works Is Faith Expressed" (65-1126), par. 327

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There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.

[Bro. Branham in "Conduct-Order-Doctrine", pg. 724]