

Confessions

Is Confession for sin Necessary?

1 Jn 3:4 says that sin is the transgression of The Law.

The only Law of the New Testament (which we are now under) is the Law of Love (Jn 13:34-35). So whenever deliberately you do not show love to another (and there is a really only one type of love we are to show - that of God which we are to try and imitate) we fail God's requirements of us and sin.

The Mosaic Law had this quality of love behind it which is why the above 'Law of Love' meets all its requirements.

Do we need to confess our sins?

The short answer is No!

Jesus never said that He came for the purposes of forgiving sin. He said that He came for the purposes of remitting sin.

Matt 26:28 "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Mark 1:4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

Luke 24:47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

The atonement of the Old testament enabled man to approach God as a sacrifice for sin had been made on his behalf. This still left defilement of sin which, while people became citizens of The Kingdom of God they could not enter heaven, its base, because of this defilement.

When Jesus died at Calvary God remitted sin. Jesus took all sin on Himself and died suffering the punishment of your sins on your behalf and for all who ever lived. Jesus satisfied God in taking on Himself the punishment for your sins and so there is no more punishment for sin necessary as Jesus met it all at Calvary.

This means God no longer considers us to have sinned or be defiled by sin if

we follow Jesus as Lord as Jesus redeemed us with His death. His death met our requirement for God's punishment for sin and through His death He ransomed us so we are His if we follow Him as Lord as in a sense He owns all mankind having purchased us through His shed Blood.

The Father looks at us and sees the sacrifice and punishment of Jesus so that He does not see in us sin or the need to punish us for these as He sees these on Jesus at Calvary! This is why Jesus must be Lord before He can be saviour!

Because The Father sees you without sin there is nothing for you to confess, and as he does not consider you defiled by sin you can enter the Kingdom of God and are able to have The Holy Spirit in you to guide you and help you in following Jesus in our Christian walk.

We are told to admit our weakness (confess them) in James 5:16 and not our sins. In other words to deal with the area of life that causes us to sin and not the results of the attitudes in this area.

As God does not see sin in us, because our sins have been remitted there is no more guilt, shame or condemnation. Before God there is nothing to be guilty or ashamed of, or condemned for so any of these we feel comes from Satan and his demons and should be sent to the throne of judgment be dealt with by Jesus.

The Holy Spirit will convict us but does not make us feel shame, guilt or condemnation.

If we truly love Jesus as our Lord we will not disobey Him, and will repent (turn away from) of a what we are doing wrong.

Sin requires a knowledge that what you are doing is wrong so that it is deliberate rebellion. Even then repentance restores fellowship as long as you have not blasphemed The Holy Spirit.

Sin can only occur when you deliberately do something you know is wrong. James says in ch. 4:17 that doing something you know is wrong (in the eyes of God) is sin.

God does not judge you for thoughts or actions you do not realise are sins but for those you knowingly do wrong.

God judges us by our attitudes and not our actions which is why we can sin in our heart by desiring to do the act and not repenting of doing it without actually doing it.

Sins is only against what God wants you to do and not against what man or denominations want you to do unless they have legal authority over you and even then what they ask must not be in disobedience to God's Will or His Principles.

Remember, the only authority over you is for the purposes of the denomination. Jesus is our spiritual head so they cannot claim that (1 Pet 2:25).

Deliberate rebellion against God while will be expressed in some of the following ways:

Lukewarmness in a matter God wants you to act in

Breaking The Law of Love

Unforgiveness of another

Breaking any laws of the land that do not infringe on the Law or Principles of God!

Breaking the principles of God in The Bible

What about James 5:16:

James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Some translations have 'sins' instead of 'faults'. This is wrong as God does not see sin in us and we cannot confess something God says we do not have!

This was mistranslated so people could say they had the right to forgive sins so you had to go to them instead of The Father. We are told in The Bible that The Father is the one who forgives sin (Matt 6:14-15).

This verse says to deal with weaknesses we have so we know what we are dealing with in us so that deliverance can be prayed for us in these areas of weakness.

Once weaknesses of faith or character are dealt with the sins that use to result

from these will no longer occur. This is what God desires for us that we are free from the hurt behind the weaknesses in us and this is what James 5:16 is all about.

Jesus died for us to free us from sin and its defilement so that all we need to do is repent, confess our weaknesses, obtain deliverance for it and then to continue on in our Christian walk as His servant.

Calvary is a sign of God's Grace and Love for us and of the freedom we now have from guilt, shame or condemnation if Jesus is truly our Lord!

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is a mark of God's Love and properly belongs to a discussion on love.

Once we have become Christians we no longer have to earn forgiveness or acceptance through sacrifices or offerings to God as this is now found in Jesus and what He has done at Calvary.

(1 Cor 1:30 KJV) But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

We no longer confess our sins to obtain forgiveness or be justified again. The Christian life is not forgiveness by instalments'. We are forgiven of all that we have done, are doing or will do wrong. That was done on the cross! Confession is now an admission of weakness and repentance from wrong things to the things of God.

The past is dealt with by Jesus so you do not look back to what you have done as that has been forgiven but you look forward to what Jesus desires to do in you.

Luke 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Confession then is an acknowledgement (agreement) with God that we have weaknesses we need to deal with, and that God in His love does has forgiven us and does not reject us but encourages us to keep going. While we must try

to do what is right, we are not expected to always succeed to do what is right!
This is because we are not perfect like God and will make mistakes.

The word 'perfect' in this usage means 'maturity'. So when we are told in
Matt 5:48:

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

It really means to be mature in all you do like God is in all he does

Obedience then becomes an act of Love to God, who will never reject you or make you do anything to obtain forgiveness, but who accepts you as you are and will not lay any burden upon you other than that of loving others as He loved you and loves them!

The Christian life then becomes an expression of the love relationship you have with each member of The Trinity.

That is why He said;

(John 14:15 NKJV) "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

Why is confession necessary?

It says to God "I failed because of a weakness I have. I did not mean to hurt you as I love you and don't want to cause you grief of any kind".

It removes a wrong attitude or thought pattern from the mind which demons can use to form incorrect ways of thinking and reinforces wrong attitudes and habits.

It allows deliverance so the mind can be restored by removing the mental poison these wrong thoughts and attitudes have placed there providing there is no unforgiveness or bitterness of any type in you or desire to not confess a sin because you enjoy doing it so much.

It restores our communication with God by changing our focus back towards Him so we can hear the Holy Spirit more clearly.

Through deliverance hurts in our spirit are healed which allows the Holy Spirit to remove incorrect attitudes or ways of thinking and 'heal' the mind so it is able to more clearly think and stop Satan using the pain and memories associated with our past hurts.

It shows we are children of the Kingdom of the Father and want to do the right thing by God - i.e., obey Him.

It keeps us humble and reinforces our perspective of God (how we relate to Him and His Love.)

There is a difference between those who want to do better but can't seem to - no matter how hard they try (which usually means deliverance is necessary), and those who enjoy their wrongdoing and don't want to do the right thing - even when faced with the truth of what is right (these need to repent).

This is why a hypocrite cannot be heard by God as he has turned his back on God and, by choice, ignores some of the rules of the Kingdom of God. The danger of hypocrisy is a seared conscience. The person also is in constant rebellion and is in danger of Hell fire.

Job 13:16 He also shall be my salvation: for an hypocrite shall not come before him.

Job 27:8 For what is the hope of the hypocrite, though he hath gained, when God taketh away his soul?

The life of Grace, resulting from knowing our sins have been dealt with fully by Jesus, and that the relationship with God can never be lost (unless we do something to destroy it) is a life of freedom. The Mosaic Law and its rules are no longer a burden to obey but have been replaced by Love for Jesus and what He has done (Act 15:1-21). Life is then loving obedience to Jesus and the Will of the Father under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and not a continual, legalistic performance of rules.

There is no longer a need to prove anything to anyone as God is your Judge and He has forgiven you all the wrongs you have done against Him and accepts you as you are requiring only you to obey Him in loving service - not ritualistic legalism based on a set of rules! If people do not accept you it is their problem and they are not rejecting you but Jesus whose rules you are following.

(John 3:16 - 17NKJV) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His

Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

One of the hardest things a person can do at times is to forgive themselves. This is often because they do not believe God loves them and will forgive them. This lie of the devil needs to be rebuked and the truth, that God accepts you as you are, and not as you think you should be, should be confessed and Satan told to go in Jesus Name asking The Holy Spirit to take his place.

Note: Most modern bibles have 'sins' instead of 'offences' because the Greek was altered by people influenced by those who believed men could forgive sins so changed 'offences' to 'sins'.

Forgiveness

We are told in Luke 17:3 to forgive those that offend you:

Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.

Forgiveness is an attitude waiting to express itself to someone who repents. You must always be willing to forgive but can only be reconciled if they come to you and repent of what they did to you. They can repent to you for nothing else and even then it is to Jesus really as He is the one who was disobeyed. What they do when they come to you is to remove the offence they have caused against you so God can now accept what they offer Him.

'Rebuke' means to correct and all you can really do is to show them what The Bible says and show them how they are not obeying it. God alone is their judge and we are just fellow sinners.

This attitude of being willing to forgive stops things like anger, bitterness, resentment and other wrong attitudes being expressed.

This is why in your heart you must forgive others their offences against you and declare this when they repent.

God chooses to forgive us and unless we love as He loves and forgive others in this love we do not go to heaven.

This repentance is the key to forgiveness of their sin by God as unless you forgive others or repent of sin Calvary cannot apply to you as you are in con-

tinual disobedience against God by not doing these things.

How often are we to forgive?

Matt 18:21-22 Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

What Jesus was saying here was not to count how often you forgive but that you have to always forgive. Seventy times Seven was more than most could comprehend in those days so in a sense Jesus was placing no limit on forgiveness. This makes sense when you consider that any unrepented unforgiveness will cost you your salvation.

So how often are we to forgive? Every time we are offended.

Offence

I was challenged to not cause offence to anyone and to show only God's Love in all I do.

I was puzzled as you can cause offence to those you correct or guide in accordance with The Bible.

Then I got the necessary insight.

We represent Jesus so when we do His will if anyone is offended then they are offended by Him as we are only the messenger. The exception to this is when we do not do things in love, humility and meekness and thus promote ourselves as having some part in the decision to correct instead of just being bearers of the Will of Jesus.

So how do we offend?

Correcting others or disciplining others from our own reasonings and not what Jesus says should be done.

Not correcting in meekness and humility

Not showing God's Love in all we do and thus causing a person to be hurt in some way.

You can only be offended by someone according to how much you want to be

offended. A person whose worth is in what Jesus thinks of them is very hard to offend as they do not need to protect their worth but leave it to Jesus to defend them.

Offence to another

Offence is either intended or accidental:

If intended, you are doing it to maintain a wrong attitude as love does not cause offence and God cannot accept gift or ministry you do until you reconcile with the person you have offended or have been offended by. If there is unforgiveness then you risk going to hell as well.

If unintentional then it is because of a wrong way of thinking but not a lack of love. God does not stop your gift being accepted as it was not done deliberately

You must try and reconcile even if the other person does not want to. At least you will do what God wants so that he can accept your ministry and gifts to Him.

Bitterness

This is the result of an inability or unwillingness to forgive. This indicates a need for deliverance otherwise you may lose your salvation through the unforgiveness associated with it.