Dr. Tony Crisp © 2023 "On the Way" 365 Bible Reading

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

1 John 2

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I John chapter two begins in chapter one and verse 8. John is talking about the blood of Jesus Christ cleansing us from all sin and walking in fellowship with God and at the end of that thought he moves to sin itself and our relationship to it as believers. Remember John is speaking primarily to believers, not unbelievers as he did in the Gospel of John. The apostle begins by talking about sin, foremost he is addressing our sin nature. Every person is born with a nature and environment inclined toward sin. It is our natural propensity to sin. It is our desire to sin and given time and space we will sin. "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." However, for the child of God there is a recognition of sin and when we sin, "if we confess our sins God is faithful and just, and He will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." People have come to me over the decades of ministry and have said, "Pastor what does it mean to "Confess" my sin? They usually go on to say that they name their sins or admit their sins and ask for forgiveness, but they do not sense God's forgiveness.

First, let me explain that confession does not mean admitting you have sinned. That is part of confession, but not what confession truly is. Confession in the Greek text is a compound word, *Homo* and *Logeo*. *Homo* means the same, as in *Homo*sexual means *same* sex. *Logeo* is the word for *speaking* or *saying*. Homologeo means to speak the same thing or say the same thing as another. In this case, it means to speak the same thing about sin that God does. It means to say the same about our sin that God says about our sin. The one word that translates word for word would be the English word "agree."

When we confess our sins, we agree with God about our sins. We agree that it is our fault and our responsibility. We agree that no matter what someone else did, we responded and made our choice in attitude, action, or reaction. We agree that we, and not God or anyone else are to blame, but we accept the blame and own the responsibility for our sin. We agree with God that we should repent of our sin, turn from it, and stop sinning. We agree that we seek forgiveness and restoration of fellowship. We agree that God will forgive us and give us a fresh start and that God will cleanse us from the filth and stain of sin. More to come.

Prayer and Action Steps

Lord in heaven, thank you for your forgiveness for sin and cleansing from all sin.

Thank you for restoring us to fellowship with you.

Thank you that you are faithful to forgive us and just in doing so because of the Lord Jesus.

Amen