

1 John 1:9

Based on what we have seen about conditional statements and who “we” is in chapter 1, is confession a good thing?

Answer: yes, confession is a good thing.

It is something that the leaders do on a regular basis, so it must be a good thing.

It is the mark of a Christian as opposed to an unbeliever.

It is particularly important for leaders to admit (to themselves, to God and to others) that they commit sins since it is the mark of a false teacher to say that one does not commit sins.

The letter as a whole provides the grounds for determining the difference between a believer and an unbeliever.

The grounds are a combination of what a man declares he believes and how he lives.

Believers proclaim that Jesus is the Son of God, that He is the Christ, and that He has come in the flesh.

Believers love the brethren.

Believers do not practice sin.

They still commit sins but they repent of their sins and work to stop sinning.

They realize that God forgives them of their sins on the basis of the blood of Christ which cleans them from all unrighteousness.

There is a relationship between believers confessing our sins and the fact that God is faithful and righteous such that He forgives our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. Even if we are not told exactly what the nature of that relationship is.

Prov 28:13

3 He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper,  
But he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.

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Ps 32

**32** **A** How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,  
Whose sin is covered!

**2** How blessed is the man to whom the Lord **A** does not impute iniquity,  
And in whose spirit there is **B** no deceit!

**3** When **A** I kept silent *about my sin*, **B** my **1** body wasted away  
Through my **2** **C** groaning all day long.

**4** For day and night **A** Your hand was heavy upon me;  
My **1** **B** vitality was drained away *as* with the fever heat of summer. **2**  
Selah.

**5** I **A** acknowledged my sin to You,  
And my iniquity I **B** did not hide;  
I said, "**C** I will confess my transgressions to the Lord";  
And You **D** forgave the **1** guilt of my sin. Selah.

**6** Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You **1** **A** in a time when  
You may be found;  
Surely **B** in a flood of great waters they will not reach him.

**7** You are **A** my hiding place; You **B** preserve me from trouble;  
You surround me with **1** **C** songs of deliverance. Selah.

**8** I will **A** instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go;  
I will counsel you **B** with My eye upon you.

**9** Do not be **A** as the horse or as the mule which have no understanding,  
Whose trappings include bit and bridle to hold them in check,  
*Otherwise* they will not come near to you.

**10** Many are the **A** sorrows of the wicked,  
But **B** he who trusts in the Lord, lovingkindness shall surround him.

**11** Be **A** glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous ones;  
And shout for joy, all you who are **B** upright in heart.

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