

## Do You Agree?

1 John 1:9; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; May 27, 2018

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. – 1 John 1:9*

### Questions of LIFE

Guilt: What will I do with my *guilt*? Will I rest in Jesus?

Good: What *good* will I place my hope in for full and lasting happiness? Will I hope in God?

Guide: To what will I look to be my *guide* in life? Will I pursue love according to God's Word?

### Culture: No God, No Sin

If there is no God, there is no sin. If there is a God, there is sin.

*Once to sin against God was the greatest sin; but God died, and these sinners died with him.  
– Friedrich Nietzsche*

*God is dead. God remains dead. And we have killed him.  
– Friedrich Nietzsche*

If we do not practice what 1 John 1:9 encourages, then we are functional atheists: denying sin and therefore, denying God.

The question I would like for us all to consider today is: Do you agree with God?

### Looking Closely at 1 John 1:9

- **If** = a condition: some will do this and some will not; those who act on the promise will receive the benefit, those who don't won't.
- **We** = anyone (see vv. 8, 10); one reason we celebrate the Lord's Supper together: 'we confess our sins.'
- **Confess** = 'say the same the thing' (homospeakers); agree with what someone else says; Without confession we cannot be saved! (1:6-7, 8, 10); Confession is rooted in believing God's Word about our sin. Do you do this? On a regular basis? Daily? Moment by moment as needed?
- **Our sins** = 'missing the mark' (Romans 3:23); Which are you quicker to confess ... your sin or the sin of others?

- **He** = the God who is Light (see verse 5); the revelation of Jesus is that God is Light! (1:1-4); God is Light. (1:5) ... Judgment; need for forgiveness; God is Love. (4:8) ... Mercy; assurance of forgiveness.
- **Is faithful and righteous** = faithful to do what is right; will always do what is right; faithful to keep His promises; in this case, to forgive us because that's why Jesus did what He did on the cross and that's the gospel message from God (Luke 24:46-47); God will always show mercy because of Jesus, without fail, to those who ask Him! (Matthew 7:7-8; Romans 10:13) This is a promise of mercy! Assumption: God is merciful and ready to forgive those who ask for mercy! (Luke 18:13-14) Assumption: God has provided a way of forgiveness through Jesus and it is right for Him to forgive anyone and everyone who come to Him for mercy, trusting in Jesus! Therefore, confession must be in the context of belief in Jesus. (1:7; 2:1-2, 12; 3:23; 4:10) Confession also must be an act of repentance for sin. (1:6-7) Confession must be an important part of the practice of righteousness. (3:7; 4:19) Confession continually takes us back to the Cross of Jesus for forgiveness and to prepare us to forgive. (Luke 11:4)
- **To forgive us our sins** = to release us from our debt so that it need not be paid by us; to release us from punishment; justification; picture of release from a just punishment/wrath; the promise of forgiveness is huge in light of the God who is Light! (1:5)
- **And to cleanse us** = to remove our guilt (pardon); to free us from our sinful living (power of sin); sanctification and ultimately, glorification (1:6-7; 2:1, 17, 29). We can only overcome forgiven sin! Forgiveness frees us to love the Word of God (2:3-6). Forgiveness frees us to love the People of God (2:7-11). Forgiveness frees us from the power of Satan. (5:18)
- **From all unrighteousness** = sin is unrighteousness (see 5:17); failure to obey God's law of love to God and man (summarized in the 10 commandments); ultimately, the failure to be like God and love as God loves. This promise is for all our sin, no matter what it is (past, present, future) ... no unpardonable sin! To believe in God's forgiveness is to believe in God's love for us! (4:16-18) To believe in forgiveness frees us to love God (4:15-21) and to love others! (4:21). To believe in forgiveness is to rejoice in the gift of eternal life (5:13) which includes confident access to God in prayer now (5:14-15).

## Conclusion

1. Do you confess your sins to God, trusting in Christ, moment by moment and day by day?
2. Do you agree with God about your sin and what it is?
3. Do you agree with God about your sin and what it deserves?
4. Do you agree with God about your sin and that it should be forsaken?
5. Do you agree with God about your sin and how it can be justly forgiven?
6. Do you agree with God about your sin and that you are loved by God?