

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1John 1:7-9



Each year a lamb without spot or blemish had to be sacrificed to atone for the sins of the congregation of Israel. The blood of the lamb would be carried into the Holy of Holies and used to anoint the Mercy Seat between the cherubims on the top of the Ark of the Covenant. Adam's sin became a wall of separation between God and man. The sacrifices under the Law were, as it were, interest payments for sin. They postponed God's wrath. God created a second "Adam," Jesus Christ, and placed Him in Mary's womb. This "Adam" was the perfect human form of God, Himself. God atoned for the transgressions of men and satisfied the requirement of the Law. Jesus was not "our" sacrifice. He was His own sacrifice for our sins. God owed no debt, but He assumed our debt and paid it in full. We must confess our sin and guilt to God to be freed from death. Confession is owning up to sins you have committed against God, trusting solely in His Word that you are cleansed and free, and rejoicing in that fact of faith. God is faithful to His Word, and He is just to forgive, because He satisfied the sin debt, Himself. You will never again be condemned by your confessed sin, for the Blood of the Lamb of God covers it all. We are born into condemnation and death through the first Adam's sin, and reborn into forgiveness and Life through the second "Adam's" sacrifice. This is why the sin of pride is so deadly. Pride prevents us from admitting our guilt and thereby effectively seals our doom. We are standing on the deck of the "unsinkable" Titanic, being offered alternative passage. Pride instills the sinner with false confidence in his own precarious standing when he should be prostrate before a Holy God. Do not take lightly the work of salvation that Jesus did on the Cross. There is nothing one can do or say to mitigate the debt owed. The payment is finished. Anything added to that perfection only mars its beauty. The good works of man are blemishes on the perfect redemptive work which God has already accomplished. Jesus didn't come to condemn, but to give Life more abundant. He faithfully forgives "*whosoever will*" come and confess their sin.

Jesus Christ is faithful and just,
To be wholly cleansed, confess we must,
His Life's Blood shed redeemed us all,
Who on His name for cleansing call. -CGP

If there's no confession, there's no cleansing. If there's no cleansing, there's no forgiveness. If there's no forgiveness, there's no eternal Life. Don't let pride get in the way of "*Life more abundant.*"

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isaiah 1:18