

A DEVOTIONAL SERIES ON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

CONFESS YOUR FAITH

John 6:68-69 Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Peter confessed that He believed that Jesus is the Messiah, the one sent by God to take away the sins of the world. Peter’s confession came at a point when Jesus’ ministry had taken a dramatic turn. The huge crowds that had been following Jesus when told by Him that He came to earth not to provide them with bread, fish and healing, but with His own flesh and blood for their salvation, many no longer followed Him.

With the masses turning against Jesus or at least turning neutral toward Him, Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you want to go away also?” (John 6:67) With this question Jesus challenged the twelve to think long and hard as to why they were following Him. Who did they believe Jesus was? Was He the Messiah? Had He come to earth to establish an earthly kingdom? Why would they want to follow Him? The Holy Spirit entered Peter’s heart and moved Him to make a strong confession of faith in Jesus, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.” (John 6:68-69)

Today, Jesus asks you the same question He asked Peter, “Do you want to go away also?” If so, you would join the exodus of people who no longer regularly worship Him each weekend. You would move from those who confess Him as their Lord and Savior to a new category of people who have been named “The Nones.” The Nones self-identify as atheists, agnostics, and those who say their religion is “nothing in particular.” – This group now make up roughly 23% of the U.S. adult population.

God’s promise to you through the Pen of St. Paul is, “For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put

to shame.' For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'”

Prayer: Dear Jesus, I believe you are the Christ, the Son of the ever-living God, that you are merciful and full of love toward me a sinner. Thank you for Your great sacrifice for me and my salvation. Amen.

All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him ye martyrs of our God, Who from His altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel’s chosen race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him ye heirs of David’s line, Whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe, On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at His fee may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting son And crown Him Lorde of all.
We’ll join the everlasting son And crown Him Lord of all.
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