

Matthew 10:32-33 A Public Profession of Faith in Jesus

Introduction: One does not get saved by making a public profession, but Jesus does want one who is saved to make a public profession. Jesus instructs the apostles so they could instruct others.

- I. How this text relates to the apostles commission to preach.
 - A. "Therefore" in verse 32 refers back to the commission to preach.
 - B. The Lord wanted the apostles to preach the gospel to Israel.
(Those who believed were to confess.)
 - C. The word "confess" means "to speak like or speak in agreement with."
 1. The apostles had declared that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, the Savior.
 2. When one trusts in Jesus he is to speak in agreement with what the apostles have said.
 3. The word "confess" is "profess" in I Timothy 6:12.

- II. How this text relates to a prediction of persecution.
 - A. The word "therefore" in verse 32 refers also to the prediction Jesus has made of persecution.
 - B. Believers would be persecuted because of their profession.
 1. The pressure would be put on to make professed believers renounce their profession.
 2. The pressure would be intended to prevent some from making a profession.
 - C. But Jesus wants the believer to make a public profession of faith.

- III. The promise that is made to the believer who professes.
 - A. "If you confess me before men, I will confess you before my Father."
 - B. This is a blessed promise indeed. (Honor, reward.)

- IV. The promise that is made to the one who will not profess Jesus before men.
 - A. "If you deny me before men, I will deny you before my Father."
 - B. This is a dreadful promise.

- V. A further explanation about the heart, Romans 10:10.
 - A. Paul explained that it is with the heart that one believes and gets saved.
 1. He is saved even before the public profession.
 2. He is saved even if he never makes a public profession, John 3:18.
 - B. It is with the mouth that the profession is made.
 1. One can be saved and be a silent disciple, John 19:38.
 2. But it is not the Lord's will for a disciple to be silent; He wants a public profession.
 - C. A serious question: If a saved person does not profess Jesus will Jesus deny him before the Father.
 1. Yes. He will not deny that he is saved, nor that he can enter heaven, but He will deny him rewards and honors.
 2. Even that is better than the unsaved for He will deny him heaven.

- VI. Some things of special importance.
 - A. Jesus wants a profession that is genuine.
 1. One can walk the isle and say all the right words and still be lost.
 2. Jesus wants you to trust in Him with all of the heart.
 - B. Jesus want a profession that follows thru with baptism and church membership and active service.

C. Jesus wants a profession that is persistent.

1. He does not want persecution to cause you to fall by the wayside and stop serving Him.
2. He does not want you to stop serving for any reason in the world.
3. He wants you to be faithful to the last breath.

Conclusion:

1. I call upon every unsaved person to believe what the apostles preach about Jesus. I call upon you to trust Him to save you.
2. I call upon every saved person who has not made a public profession to come and do so. I call upon you to follow thru with baptism and church membership.
3. I call upon saved people who need to do so to move your membership.
4. I call upon every saved person to persevere in serving Christ.

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