

Fullness Received

Lesson 12 – Outline

1. First John 1:9 has been traditionally taught that every time you sin, you have to confess it in order to receive forgiveness.

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

- A. If you have to confess every sin before it’s forgiven, nobody could retain their salvation.
 - B. This just can’t be what it means.
2. First John 1:9 refers to when you first come to the Lord.
 - A. This verse instructs the unbeliever to be born again, not the believer to confess every sin all the time.
 - B. You confess that you’re a sinner in need of forgiveness and are cleansed from all unrighteousness by receiving your brand-new, born-again spirit.
 3. First John 1:9 can also mean cleansing the effects of sin from a believer’s soul and body.
 - A. Your spirit isn’t affected by sin, but your soul and body are.
 - B. Sin gives the devil a legal right to work his death into your life because you yielded yourself to him (Rom. 6:16).
 - C. By confessing, you take the salvation, the forgiveness, the holiness, and the righteousness that’s already a reality in your spirit, and which never fluctuated when you failed, and draw it out into your body and soul.
 - D. This literally drives the devil out and takes his place away, because he no longer has rights and privileges in your life once you repent and turn away from what you’ve done.
 4. Understanding your eternal redemption will cause you to live holy.
 - A. You’ll desire to live holy so that nothing will ever dull you or keep you from perceiving these great truths and His love.
 - B. Holiness is a fruit—not a root—of salvation (Rom. 6:22).
 - C. “Holiness” doesn’t produce God moving in your life, but your external actions of holiness are a result of understanding the righteous nature of your born-again spirit.
 5. This has given me a deep abiding security in my relationship with God.

A. I'm His workmanship.

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:10).

B. God loves me and I'm never separated from His love.

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:35 and 38-39).

C. In my spirit, God has already given me His full measure of love.

“And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace” (John 1:16).

D. You'll be so appreciative of what God has done that you'll live holier in your actions accidentally than you've ever lived on purpose.