

FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

Request: In our lesson on Forgive as Forgiven (Eph.4:32), I was trying to make a point about confession of sin based on 1John 1:9. Unfortunately, I ran out of time and left the discussion uncompleted regarding fellowship with God. The question I was posing at the time was “why does God require the church age believer to confess personal sin since they are forgiven in Christ (Acts 26:18; Eph.1:7; Co.1:13-14)?

This lesson will study FOUR aspects of how confession of sin effects fellowship with God according to 1 John 1:5-10.

1. In 1 John 1:5-10, fellowship with God is associated with confession of sin. But how is confession connected?

The Greek word for fellowship is (koinonia). It means to share so as to participate together.

1 John 1:5-10 is an "A Priori" argument. A Priori argument is reasoning from a general rule to specific rules and from cause to effect. This method is used to bring the audience to common sense and to test volition to truth and to expose old man cosmos diabolicus thinking (lies).

- The general rule is stated as “And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that **God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.**” (1 John 1:5)

Three specific rules are introduced in 1 John 1:6-7, 8-9,10 by the phrase, “if (3cc) we say that (3 lies of OMCD).” These three specific rules argue cause and effect regarding the general rule.

2. The cause and effect of this "A Priori" argument is stated by three third class conditional clauses (3cc). Each 3cc has a protasis (if / cause) and an apodosis (then / effect).

“God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.”

Protasis (cause)	Apodosis (effect)
1:6 (false belief) walk in darkness	(lie) do not practice the truth (OMCD)
1:7 (true belief) walk in light	(truth) (NMDV)
1:8 (false belief) no OSN	(lie) deceived, truth not in us (OMCD)
1:9 (true belief)	(truth) (NMDV)
1:10 (false belief)	(lie) make God liar, God’s word not in us/ OMCD)

What is 1 John 1:5-10 teaching us about the cause and effect of false doctrines?

What is 1:7 and 1:9 teaching us about cause and effect and about solving the problem of fellowship with God?

3. 1 John 1:5-10 teaches four important doctrinal points about fellowship with God.

First doctrinal point is that the church age believer **cannot** walk in darkness (no fellowship with God) and walk in light (fellowship with God) at the same time. These are mutually exclusive. Yet it is possible for the church age believer to walk in either of them.

Second doctrinal point is that the church age believer can chose to stop walking in darkness by confession of personal sin **because** “He (God) is faithful (pistos) and just (dikaios) to forgive (aphiemi / a.a.subj) us our sins, and to cleanse (katharizo / a.a.subj) us from all unrighteousness (adikias).”(1 John 1:9)

Third doctrinal point is that every church age believer can chose to walk in the light of fellowship with God **because** “the blood of Jesus His son continuously works to cleanses (katharizo/ p.a.ind) us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

Fourth doctrinal point is that church age believer must put off false doctrines (lies) and put on true doctrines (truth) in order to walk in the light of fellowship with God. This is the purpose of the A Priori argument of 1 John 1:5-10. The general rule was **“God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.” (1:5)**

4. There are two spiritual problem-solving devices to a consistent walk in fellowship (koinonia) sharing so as to participate together) with God.

- Putting off OMCD and putting on NMDV by renewing of the mind (Rom.12: 2; Eph.4: 22-24; 2 Cor.5: 7).

The spiritual advancing believer must volitional chose to put off the lies (false doctrines) of OMCD by putting on truth (true doctrines) of NMDV (Gal.5: 17; Rom.8: 5-9; Col.3: 5-8; 1 Pet.2: 9-11; 2 Cor.5: 7).

- Confession of sin and walking by means of FHS (1 John 1:9) (peripateo / p.a.impv.2pl) (Gal.5: 16-17).

The spiritual advancing believer must volitional chose to win over the temptation of lust gratification of OSN by walking by means of lust gratification of FHS (James 1:14-15; Rom.13: 13-14; Eph.5: 18; Gal.5: 17).

***“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose it to you.”
(John 16:13)***

***“Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, ‘If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.’”
(John 8:31-32)***