**Real Confessions**

**Introduction:**

Parrots are amazing creatures! They are capable of mimicking sounds and even words. A parrot could be trained to say, “I believe Jesus Christ is the risen Son of God.” But would that be a real confession of faith? Let’s read Hebrews 10:23. “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.” NKJV

**Body:**

1. **Hold Fast Without Wavering**
* “Let us” is a common exhortation in Hebrews. (Hebrews 10:21-22)
* “Hold fast” means to restrain, possess, or hold onto. (Hebrews 3:6, Hebrews 6:11-12) We must adhere firmly to the teachings, convictions, and beliefs of the gospel. This is the human side of eternal security. (Mark 4:16-17)
* “Without wavering” means no wavering, right or left, from God’s Word. (Hebrews 6:4-6)
* Do not let persecution, suffering, worldly influence, or a delay in Christ’s coming induce you to waiver. (II Corinthians 9:3-4)
1. **The Confession of Our Hope**
* “Confession” means saying the same thing, being in agreement. (II Corinthians 9:13)
* Confession is an outward exhibition in word and deed of our hope in Christ and His Word. (Hebrews 3:1, I John 2:23) It is a public validation of our faith.
* Confession is based upon a deep conviction that God’s Word is true. We believe what God has said. We bring our lives into alignment and agreement with the Word of God. (John 12:42, Romans 10:9-10)
* We must confess and give expression “to our hope.” Hope is the desire of some good with the expectation of obtaining it. (Hebrews 6:11-12) This hope is based on the firm foundation of life, death, and the resurrection of Christ. (Hebrews 6:18-20) Our confession strengthens our hope.
1. **God Is Faithful**
* God is completely and totally reliable. This is seen in I Kings 8:56, Deuteronomy 7:9.
* God keeps His promises. He is trustworthy. (Psalm 105:8)
* Christ is the faithful witness. (Revelation 1:5, Revelation 3:14, Revelation 19:11)
* He is faithful to forgive. (I John 1:9)

**Conclusion:**

Each Christian looks forward to that heavenly country described in Hebrews 12:22-24. “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels. to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.” NKJV

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