

CONFESSION OF FAITH

On False Worship, from Prone to Wonder

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Immortal God, You are the all-wise king who created and sustains all things by your wisdom. You have revealed your glory and majestic power in the world all around us. Your fingerprints in creation are unmistakable for all those who are willing to look. Your holiness and power are made evident in your providential care for everything you have made, including us. Yet we confess that we have not honored you and given you the thanks and praise you deserve. Instead of worshiping you, we have worshiped power, control, sex, money, reputation, and many other things. We have praised and valued these things above all in our hearts, pursuing them as if they were treasure. We have respected and honored people who were successful in serving these idols while ignoring and mocking others who were faithful to you. These things are not worthy of our worship: they cannot save us and protect us from our enemies, nor can they transform us into pure and holy people.

Lord Jesus, thank you for your pure and wise worship of your heavenly Father. You never flinched from glorifying your Father, growing daily in knowledge and wisdom and the fear of the Lord. When Satan tempted you in the wilderness, you refused to bow down to him, instead reminding him of God's Word, which says, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve" (Luke 4:8). Thank you that your faithful obedience and holy wisdom are reckoned to us as our righteousness before your Father.

Holy Spirit, make wisdom delightful to the inmost parts of our souls. Draw us daily to the cross, which is the most powerful demonstration of the wisdom of God. Show us the perfect life that Christ has lived for us, and then shape us so that we can turn away increasingly from the seductive power of the wisdom of this world and receive in its place biblical wisdom. Grow us daily in the knowledge and fear of the Lord, until you complete that good work on the day you take us to be with you forever in heaven. In the name of Christ we pray, amen.