

- b) Inner peace when you obey God
- c) Conviction when you disobey God
- d) A love for other Christians

**b. Every believer can know he has eternal life (v.13)**

- 1) The evidence is clear that Jesus is God the Son and the giver of eternal life.
- 2) You have God's Word on it.
- 3) You can know because eternal life begins the moment you trust Christ. Jesus said, (John 5:24) *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."* If you have it and it is eternal, you cannot lose it.
- 4) The key question is do you have eternal life?

**Conclusion:** People who knew Jesus while he was on earth testified that He was more than a man. The Holy Spirit testifies that Jesus is the giver of eternal life. He died, was buried, and rose again to pay the debt of our sin. God the Father testifies that He has given eternal life and that eternal life is in his Son. John wrote, (John 3:36) *"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."*

This evening, either you have eternal life or you have eternal death. There is no other option. If you are not certain, the chances are great that you have eternal death. It does not have to stay that way. You can believe on Christ alone and receive eternal life. If you have believed on Christ, you can know you have eternal life, and you can confidently keep on believing.

**Song:** I Know Whom I Have Believed, **224**

Revised from 17 October 2010 AM

# The Witness

4 August 2019 PM – 1 John 5:6-13– 1Jn2019 – Scott Childs

**Introduction:** When a witness is called on to testify in a court of law, he must promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

John has presented Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, the giver of eternal life. John declared that Jesus came by water and by blood (v.6). No one knows for sure to what the water and blood refer. There are three possible explanations.

The testimony of water may refer to God's voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism. (Matthew 3:17) *"And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."* The testimony of blood may refer to God's voice that was heard just before the crucifixion of Christ. (John 12:28) *"Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again."*

The testimony of water and blood may refer to the water and blood that came from Christ's body after he died. (John 19:34) *"But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water."*

A third possible meaning that is not as popular, but to me more probable is that the water refers to the waters of Christ's physical birth and the blood refers to His blood shed at His physical death. Both miraculously testify of Jesus humanity and divinity.

Jesus was the God/Man. He was divine and human. He truly lived a sinless life and died an atoning death for the human race just as the Spirit of God said.

How can we know for sure that these statements are true? In our text today, John presents a solid argument that ought to convince even a sceptic. (Read 1 John 5:6-13)

**Transition:** Similar to a courtroom hearing, John called on witnesses, deliberated the evidence, and then issued the verdict.

## 1. The Witnesses

John presented the testimonies of four witnesses. Before we look at these testimonies, it would be good for us to identify some terms used in our text. The words *"bear witness," "bear record,"*

“*testified*,” and “*gave*” all translate the **verb form of a Greek word** describing the act of testifying. The words “*witness*” and “*record*” both translate the **noun form of the same Greek word** referring to a testimony.

**a. The first witness is the witness in heaven (v.7)**

- 1) Each member of the Trinity knows the facts about Jesus.
  - a) The Father called His Son God (Heb 1:8).
  - b) The Word (Jesus) is God (Joh 1:1).
  - c) The Holy Spirit testifies of Christ (Jn 15:26).
- 2) All three of the Trinity agree because they are three Persons in one Being.

**b. The second witness is the witness on earth (v.8)**

- 1) The Spirit may refer to the Spirit convicting unbelievers of their need of Christ (Joh 16:7-10).
- 2) The water I believe refers to the miraculous conception and physical birth of Christ (Mt 1:23).
- 3) The blood I believe refers to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ (Mt 27:54).

**c. The third witness is the witness in the Bible (v.9)**

- 1) The Scriptures testify of Christ (Joh 5:39).
- 2) The Apostle John wrote, (John 20:31) “*But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*”

**d. The fourth witness is the witness in a believer’s heart (v.10)**

- 1) Christ has given every true believer a new nature (2Co 5:17). This is a witness of Jesus’ divinity.
- 2) The Spirit of God indwells every believer at the moment of salvation (Ro 8:9).

**2. The Deliberation**

**a. The witness in heaven is one (v.7)**

- 1) The Trinity is in harmony.
- 2) God cannot deny Himself (2Ti 2:13).

**b. The witness on earth is one (v.8)**

- 1) Men celebrated the birth of Jesus. Angels told shepherds who went and saw him. Simeon and Anna recognized

baby Jesus as the Christ. Wise men followed God’s star that directed them to Jesus.

- 2) Many people viewed Christ’s crucifixion. Even the soldiers noticed a difference in Christ. (Matthew 27:54) “*Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.*”
- 3) Christ did not remain dead. He rose from the dead for our justification (Ro 4:25). He was seen alive by more than 500 believers at once (1Co 15:6).

**c. The witness of God is greater**

- 1) God placed His record in the Bible (v.9).
- 2) God placed His record in the believer’s heart (v.10).
- 3) God’s record states the facts clearly (v.11).
  - a) God has given us eternal life. Eternal life comes from God alone. It is not given by Buddha, Mohamad, or Confucius. It is not given by a church or through a religious act like infant baptism. It is not given by heritage. It is received through faith. (Ephesians 2:8-9) “*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*”
  - b) Eternal life is in God’s Son. Because Jesus Christ is the eternal God, He is eternal life and He is able to give eternal life. (John 11:25) “*Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.*”
- 4) To refuse to believe God’s record is to make God a liar (v.10).

**3. The Verdict**

**a. The proof is within every believer (v.12)**

- 1) If you have Christ living in you, you have eternal life (Jn 5:24).
- 2) If you do not have the Son of God living in you, you do not have eternal life.
- 3) Evidence of Christ living in you will include the following.
  - a) Hunger for the things of God