

## The Testimony Of God

Walking In The Light #9

1John 5:6-21

This series has re-centered me on the things of 1<sup>st</sup> importance. The nature and character of **God**. The person and work of **Jesus**. The value of loving **one another**.

In John's day **false teachers** had come along and were trying to **fundamentally redefine** the Christian faith. They said, "*Jesus isn't God come in the flesh to die for your sins and rise again to conquer death.*" John writes to combat this and establish the saints in the truth about Jesus.

### I. God's Testimony Concerning His Son (vv. 6-13).

#### A. He says:

1. Jesus is His Son (v.12)
2. Jesus came by water & blood (v. 13)
  - a. Birth & Death
  - b. Baptism & Death

#### B. Faith isn't a religious thing, it's a human thing (finite knowledge).

1. *We accept man's testimony* (v. 9)
  - a. family
  - b. historical events
  - c. court of law
2. *God's testimony is greater* (v. 9b)
  - a. Because He's God!
  - b. Does not lie.

#### C. What God Has Said About Jesus:

1. Told Mary - *The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." 34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be*

*born will be called the Son of God. (Luke 1:28-35)*

2. Told Joseph - Mary pregnant during engagement, was not going to marry her "*Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.*" 22 *All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"-which means, "God with us."* Matt 1:20-23
  3. At Baptism - *When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased (Matt 3:16-17)."*
  4. At Transfiguration - *This is my Son, with whom I am pleased, Listen to Him.*
  5. At Resurrection - Rom 1:3-4 says that *God declared Jesus to be His Son by raising Him from the dead.*
- D. "I just wish God would speak to me." He has! **This** is God's word.
1. What he says is, *This is my Son*
    - a. Believe it - God confirms it in your heart (v. 10a)
    - b. Deny it - you call God a liar (v.10b)
  2. God has given His Son, given a book, and you need to stop listening to lying voices.
- E. The Bottom Line (read vv. 11-12).
1. God *Gives* Eternal life in His Son!
  2. Did you know, *Only Christianity* teaches this?
    - a. In every other it's *not* about what God has done for you, its about what you do for God.
    - b. In every other you find your way, you earn it, you work off karma
    - c. In Christianity - God gives it. He gives it in **Jesus**.
      - (1) Jesus took your death & gave you life
      - (2) Jesus took your sin & gave you righteousness
      - (3) Jesus took your despair & gave you hope
      - (4) Jesus took your bondage & gives you freedom

- II. The Priestly Service Of Intercessory Prayer (vv. 13-18). Only touch the highlights.
- A. If a brother is struggling with a sin not leading to death.
1. Sin leading to death - *deliberate turning from God's testimony about Jesus to some other way.*
  2. Don't ask for God to make a way for them to be saved outside of faith in Jesus as God's Son who died for their sins.
  3. Heb 10:26-27 *For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.*
- B. Pray for each other:
1. God has made us priests. B confident that God hears and will restore struggling brother.
  2. I'd like to see more prayer going on before & after services.
- III. In Christ or Under The Evil One (vv. 19-21)
- A. There is a fundamental division in the world.
1. v. 19 *The whole world lies under the control of the wicked one.*
  2. John 3:16-18 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*
- B. There is no 3<sup>rd</sup> way or neutral position.
1. We either worship Jesus who is the image God has given us of Himself.
  2. Or, we worship an idol, some artifact of creation.
  3. This is *the* fundamental division in the world, we must:
    - a. Have the courage to maintain it.
    - b. Have the love not to make the division where it doesn't exist.