



# *First Epistle of John*

## *1 John 5, 9-12 - Testimony of the Spirit, Part 2*

- Summary of *1 John 5:6-8 – Testimony of the Spirit, Part 1*
  - Jesus Christ came earthly born and was baptized (water) and by (blood) for He died and shed His precious blood that we might live.
    - » *Matt 3:13-18; John 19:30*
  - And the Spirit, His water and blood together bear witness to the truth.
    - That Jesus Christ is God in the flesh!
- ***1 John 5:9 - If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God, that He has testified of His Son.***
  - *If we receive (present indicative) the witness of men*
    - Is ‘if’ here 1<sup>st</sup> (presumed true) or 3<sup>rd</sup> (probable/hypothetical) class conditional?
      - 1<sup>st</sup> class conditional, therefore, *since!*
    - What is the *witness of men* and what is our experience here?
  - No matter what it is *the witness of God is greater* – and why?
  - So, what is *the witness of God*?
    - *that He has testified of His Son.*<sub>1</sub>



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- *testified* - perfect tense, speaking of a past act of bearing testimony with the result that the testimony is on record at the present time.
- Bengel – ‘The testimony of the Father is, as it were, the basis of the testimony of the Word and of the Holy Spirit; just as the testimony of *the Spirit* is, as it were, the basis of the testimony of *the water* and the *blood*.’
  - » *Matt 3:16,17 - 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. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”*
- ***1 John 5:10 - He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.***
  - *He who believes (present active – now!) in the Son of God has the witness in himself*
    - Define what *believing in the Son of God* indicates; and what is our *witness (martyria)*.
      - Thayer - "one who avers, or can aver, what he himself has seen or heard or



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knows by any other means"

- » *John 3:16 - "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.**"*
- » *Rom 8:16 - **The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,***

- And this is personal.

- » *John 1:12 - **But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:***

– How has God provided evidence that Christ is the son of God?

- McCalley – 7 lines of evidence

–Old Testament

- » *John 5:39. 46 – "**You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.**"*

–John the Baptist

- » *John 1:6,7 - **There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe.***

–Disciple/Apostles

- » *John 15:27 – "**And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.**"*



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- His Words
  - » *John 8:14 - Jesus answered and said to them, “Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going.*
- God the Father
  - » *John 8:18 - “I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me.”*
- His Works
  - » *John 10:25 - Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father’s name, they bear witness of Me.*
- Holy Spirit
  - » *John 15:26 - But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.*
- *because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.*
  - » *Rom 3:3,4 - For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written (Psalm 5:14):  
“That You may be justified in Your words,  
And may overcome when You are judged.”*
- *he who does not believe God has made Him a liar,*



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- The contrast – flesh, world system, Satan!
  - Barker - "The writer, then, cannot allow that one can profess belief in God, as did his opponents, and yet reject God's testimony to his own Son. **Such rejection cannot be excused on the basis of ignorance. The evidence is too clear and too weighty.** Rather, it is deliberate unbelief, the character of which in the end impugns the very being and character of God. If Jesus is not God's own Son in the flesh, then God is no longer the truth. He is the liar."

***1 John 5:11 – And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.***

- What then is our basis of having *eternal life*?
  - First it *has been given* - *aoist active indicative*, a historic fact!
- *and this life is in His Son*
  - » *Rom 6: 3- Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*
  - » *Phil 1:21 – For to me to live is Christ.....*
  - » *1 John 4:9 - In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.*



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- *1 John 5:12 - He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.*
  - *He who has the Son has life* Smalley – ‘**Eternal**’ life is **qualitative, not quantitative**; it is the highest kind of spiritual and moral life, irrespective of time, which God enables the believer to share in relationship with Jesus.’
    - So, what does *the life* look like?
  - *he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.*
    - » *John 3:36 - “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; **and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life**, but the wrath of God abides on him.”*
    - » *1 John 2:22,23 - **Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.***
- Notice, that here and not before *of God* is stated – why?
- But do the unsaved know they don’t have *life*?
  - I’m a good person
  - Good deeds,
  - I am religious, dominations/traditions
  - God is blessing me - prosperity
  - Spiritual experiences