

First John

1 Jn. 5:6-13



Sonship



Fellowship



Fruitfulness

1 Jn. 5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.



11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.



I. GOD'S LITTLE CHILDREN – LIVING AT HOME IN THE SPHERE WHERE THE FATHER IS LOVED, 1:1-3:24

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b. How He laid down His life, 5:6b “...not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because **the Spirit is truth.**”

Ex. 4:9 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and **the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood** upon the dry land.



Jn. 19:34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out **blood and water**.

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Jn. 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth**.

2. The witness of the Spirit to the saint, 5:7-10a

a. The character of the witness, 5:7-8

(1) The witness in the heavenly realm, 5:7

(a) Three voices give separate testimony, 5:7a-c




i. The Father, 5:7a “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father...”

Mt. 3:16 And **Jesus**, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw **the Spirit of God** descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17 And lo **a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased.

Jn. 5:36 But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.

37 And **the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me**. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.



Jn. 8:18 I am one that bear witness of myself, and **the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.**

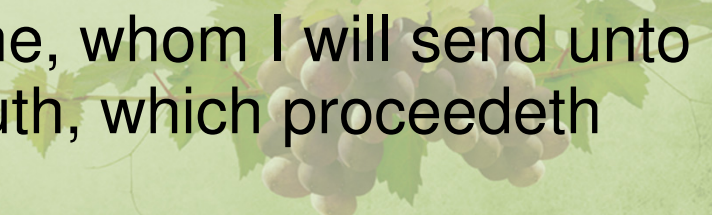
ii. The Word, 5:7b
“..., the Word...”

Jn. 8:18 **I am one that bear witness of myself**, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.

Jn. 10:25 Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: **the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.**

iii. The Holy Spirit, 5:7c
“...the Holy Ghost...”

Jn. 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, **he shall testify of me:**



Jn. 16:14 **He shall glorify me**: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

(b) These voices give supporting testimony, 5:7d "...and these three are one."

Jn. 10:30 I and my Father **are one**.

Jn. 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as **we are one**:

$$1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$$

$$\text{Eins} \times \text{une} \times \text{uno} = \text{one}$$



(2) The witness in the human realm, 5:8

(a) Three voices give separate testimony, 5:8a-c

i. The witness **in us** (the spirit,) 5:8a “And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit...”

ii. The witness **by us** (the water,) 5:8b “...and the water...”

"Not a single manuscript contains the Trinitarian addition before the fourteenth century, and the verse is never quoted in the controversies over the Trinity in the first 450 years of the church

era." Ryrie, Charles C. "The First Epistle of John." In *The Wycliffe Bible Commentary*, pp. 1477. Edited by Charles F. Pfeiffer and Everett F. Harrison. Chicago: Moody Press, 1962. Cf. Alford, 4:504.

There are seven authoritative witnesses for the King James text before A.D. 500, and three of them are before the Council of Nicaea (A.D. 325.)

1 Jn. 5:7 is found in the following:

Old Syriac versions (A.D. 150)

Cited by Tertullian (A.D. 160-230)

Cyprian's writings (A.D. 250)

The writings by *Priscillian* and *Pithanasius* (A.D. 350)

At the *Council of Carthage* (A.D. 415)

Jerome's works (A.D. 450)



Quoted by Cassiodorus (A.D. 480-570)

Used by African Latin writers to defend the doctrine of the Trinity against the Arian Vandals, 5th Century A.D.

Fulgentius' quotations (A.D. 510)


Four different *Waldensian Bibles* (A.D. 600-1400),

A miniscule *Greek manuscript* (#p88)

Manuscript #p61 (A.D. 1519).

iii. The witness **for us** (the blood,) 5:8c "...and the blood..."

(b) These voices give supporting testimony, 5:8d "...and these three agree in one."



Deut. 19:15; Matt. 18:16; John 8:17-18

b. The credibility of the witness, 5:9-10a

(1) It carries its own commendation, 5:9

1 Jn. 5:9 If we receive the witness of men, **the witness of God is greater**: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

(2) It carries its own conviction, 5:10a “He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar...”



3. The witness of the Spirit to the Scripture, 5:10b-13

a. What John wrote, 5:10b-12

(1) The record refused, 5:10b "...because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. "

(2) The record received, 5:11-12

(a) A revelation to us, 5:11

1 Jn. 5:11 And this is the record, that **God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.**



(b) A revolution in us, 5:12

1 Jn. 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

b. Why John wrote, 5:13

1 Jn. 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.





Conclusion

2 Tim. 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for **I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him** against that day.

1 Jn. 3:1 **Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God:** therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 **Beloved, now are we the sons of God,** and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3 And **every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.**