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FELLOWSHIP

## **1 John 5:6-11**

### **The Testimony of God**

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## **The Water and the Blood**

### **1 John 5:6a (NASB)**

This is the One **who came by water and blood**, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood.

- This is about Christ's baptism and crucifixion
- Therefore the Incarnation is in view
- The context shows that this is about faith's proper object (1John 5:5)

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## **The Spirit Testifies**

### **1 John 5:6b (NASB)**

It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

- "Testimony" or "Testify" is found 9 times in vss 6-11
- "Testifies" is a present participle (ongoing)
- The Spirit of God testifies by confessing Christ and motivates believers to confess
- The Spirit always speaks truth

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## **Three Witnesses Testify**

### **1 John 5:7, 8 (NASB)**

For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

- Three witnesses imply binding testimony (Deut. 19:15)
- All three point to the same truth: Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Son of God
- "Testify" is literally "are testifying"

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## God Testified About Christ

### 1 John 5:9 (NASB)

If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son.

- This is a lesser to greater argument
- God who testified cannot lie!
- This testimony refers to that of the Spirit, the water and the blood
- '*marturia*' and '*martureo*' = Greek

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## The Christian's Internal Witness

### 1 John 5:10a (NASB)

The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself;

- This is continuing faith grounded in God's testimony
- This internal witness comes with regeneration
- We still must beware of false assurance that is based on less than valid faith

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## God's Testimony Must Be Believed

### 1 John 5:10b (NASB)

the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son.

- To make God a liar is a horrific sin!
- To fail to believe in Christ is a morally culpable failure
- We do not get to choose our own deity!

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## Life Is in the Son

### 1 John 5:11 (NASB)

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and **this life is in His Son.**

- Eternal life is a gift
- This is not only about time but also about quality
- Believer's eternal life is with God in glorified bodies with no sin

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### Implications and Applications

- The triune God of the Bible testifies to the truth of the gospel
- We have assurance because of God's decisive work in Christ
- Eternal life is God's gift to believers

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### The Triune God Testifies

#### John 15:26 (NASB)

"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from **the Father**, that is the **Spirit of truth** who proceeds from the Father, He will **testify about Me**,"

- The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the trinity
- He is called "God" in Acts 5:3, 4
- Confessing Christ is the test of Spirits

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### The Holy Spirit Testifies

#### Hebrews 10:15-17 (LEB)

And **the Holy Spirit also testifies** to us, for after saying, "This is the covenant that I will decree for them after those days, says the Lord: I am putting my laws on their hearts, and I will write them on their minds." He also says, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will never remember again."

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### Assurance for Believers

#### Hebrews 10:22 (NASB)

**let us draw** near with a sincere heart in **full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

- This exhorts us to draw near to God
- The blood atonement gives a "true" heart
- Lane rightly calls this "decisive purgation"

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### Christ Gives Eternal Life

#### John 17:2, 3 (NASB)

even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

- In John 6:65 “granted” is lit. “given”
- To “know” is to have an eternal relationship with God

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### Believe and Receive Eternal Life

#### John 20:30, 31 (NASB)

Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

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