1Jn 15 - God's Testimony About Jesus Christ – 1Jn 5:6-12

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Last week we **impressed** God's Word on our minds with **the song**

"First comes <u>Faith</u>, then comes <u>Love</u>, then comes <u>Victory</u> over the evil world"

important msg - - - & we ended last week with

<u>1Jn 5:5 – ESV</u>

5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that <u>Jesus is the Son of God</u>?

& now today – <u>we come out</u> of that powerful closing statement <u>that Jesus is the Son of God</u>

- & we go right into <u>GOD'S</u> Testimony about <u>Who</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u>
- & we're going to see <u>HOW</u> we can <u>KNOW</u> for sure <u>that Jesus IS the Son of God</u>
- & also <u>The Eternal Result</u> of <u>WHETHER</u> we <u>RECEIVE</u> God's Testimony About Jesus Christ - <u>or Not</u>

Today's section focuses on <u>God's Sure Testimony</u> That Jesus – is the Christ - the Son of God – The Savior

Let's Pray

Coming out of V.5 - <u>that Jesus IS the Son of God</u> We then read

<u>1Jn 5:6(A) - ESV</u>

6 This is he who <u>came</u> . . .

the word <u>came</u> <u>can mean</u> EITHER "come into being" OR "<u>became established</u>, or <u>known</u>"

& the <u>2nd definition</u> fits the context best This is He who <u>became established</u>, who <u>become known</u>

<u>& so again – 1Jn 5:6(A)</u>

6 This is he who <u>came</u> (became established or known) by <u>water</u> and <u>blood</u>—Jesus Christ; . . .

The subject here is the <u>Historical Testimony</u> the <u>Sure Witness</u> - that Jesus <u>IS</u> the Christ

That He's Come from God, & that He IS our Savior

& so – because John is referring to Historical Testimony . . .

he says – Jesus <u>came</u> (became known) – <u>By WATER</u> That <u>would</u> <u>refer</u> to the Testimony of His <u>BAPTISM</u>

- & He <u>came</u> (became known) <u>By Blood</u> That <u>would refer</u> to the Testimony of the <u>CROSS</u>
- At the **<u>Baptism of Jesus</u>** there was an <u>*Incredible Testimony*</u> of <u>**WHO**</u> Jesus Christ truly is
- <u>ALL Four Gospels</u> record the Testimony of God About <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u> – at His Baptism

<u>Mat 3:16-17 – ESV</u>

16 And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;

17 and behold, a voice (A testimony) from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

THAT is how Jesus *initially* CAME to us

<u>In the sense</u> that that is how he was <u>Established</u> (made known) to the world

This was <u>God's</u> "<u>Testimony</u>" about Jesus & this was the <u>beginning</u> of His <u>earthly ministry</u>

Of course – <u>ALL thru His life</u> (& way before & way after) God was "<u>Testifying</u>" About <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ IS

But John is saying He was first <u>**Established**</u> as the Son of God – **at His** <u>**BAPTISM**</u>

& <u>then</u> (V.6) He <u>came</u> to us (was made known) by <u>blood</u> - - - at the <u>CROSS</u>

Let's read up to half way in 1Jn 5:6

<u>1Jn 5:6 – ESV</u>

6 This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the <u>water</u> and the <u>blood</u> . . .

Jesus Christ was <u>Established</u> – <u>Made Known</u> – <u>Proven</u> to us at <u>His Baptism</u> – & also at <u>The Cross</u>

& this is <u>critical</u> – because one of the ways people <u>call God a Liar</u> is by <u>ONLY</u> agreeing "<u>half-way</u>" with Him

There are <u>many</u> who actually <u>call</u> God a <u>LIAR</u> by agreeing <u>ONLY</u> that Jesus was a "<u>Good Teacher</u>"

In fact - there are many <u>False Religions</u> who say <u>good things</u> about Jesus' Life

some even go so far as saying He was a Prophet

<u>But</u> it was not only at His <u>Baptism</u> (& in His life) that God *"Made Known"* to us - <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u>

But God <u>ALSO</u> established <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ is - <u>at The Cross</u>

<u>As</u> the Son of God – <u>Took on</u> the <u>Sin of the World</u> <u>God</u> was giving us His "<u>Testimony</u>" about <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u>

Mat 27:45, 51-54 - ESV

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.

• • •

51 And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. 52 The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised,

53 and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. (all historical facts) 54 When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

THIS – is God's Testimony – about WHO Jesus Christ IS

<u>God</u> Himself - has made <u>known</u> to us That Jesus is "<u>The Son of God</u>" – *The Christ*

1) by water – at <u>His Baptism</u>

2) by blood – at <u>The Cross</u>

<u>Heb 9:12 – NLT</u>

12 he (Jesus) entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but <u>by means of his own</u> <u>blood</u>, thus <u>securing an eternal redemption</u>.

God Himself – is testifying to WHO Jesus Christ is

Both in <u>His Baptism</u> – <u>BEGINNING</u> His Earthly Ministry & in <u>The Cross</u> – <u>COMPLETING</u> His Earthly Ministry

& He <u>does NOT</u> give us <u>the right</u> to accept <u>one</u> without the <u>other</u>

We cannot say <u>ONLY</u> – "I believe Jesus was a good teacher, even a Prophet, and we should try to follow His example"

If we <u>DO NOT</u> accept – God's Testimony Of <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ is - <u>BOTH</u> . . .

in His <u>Baptism</u> (& His earthly life) <u>AND</u> – in His <u>death</u> on the <u>Cross</u> (as our sacrifice for sin)

If we <u>DO NOT</u> believe <u>BOTH</u> <u>THEN</u> – we <u>DO NOT</u> believe <u>God's Testimony</u> about Him

Which means – we are calling God a LIAR

& so . . . #<u>1</u>) we have God's Testimony of <u>the Water</u> - at <u>the Baptism</u> <u>#2)</u> we have God's Testimony of <u>the Blood</u> - at <u>the Cross</u>

& then . <u>#3)</u> we have the <u>Holy Spirit</u>

<u>1Jn 5:6(C) - ESV</u>

. . . And the <u>Spirit</u> is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

& so we have God's <u>TRIPLE</u> Testimony of <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u>; At the <u>Baptism</u> - At the <u>Cross</u> - & Thru the <u>Holy Spirit</u>

Listen to how the **<u>NLT translates</u>** this sentence

<u> 1Jn 5:6(C) – NLT</u>

6 . . . And the Spirit, who is truth, confirms it with his testimony.

It is the **Power** of the **Holy Spirit**

that confirms God's Testimony about WHO Jesus Christ is

In Jn 15:26 Jesus said - ESV

26 "But when the Helper (Holy Spirit) **comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.**

& here in <u>1Jn 5:6</u> – it says the <u>Spirit</u> is the one who <u>testifies</u>, . . .

This GK "Tense" for the word "Testifies" is <u>**PRESENTLY</u>** & <u>**ACTIVELY</u>** testifying</u></u>

<u>The Holy Spirit</u> is <u>Presently & Actively</u> <u>Testifying</u> to these things – Because <u>HE IS</u> the Spirit of Truth *The Holy Spirit* has **ALWAYS** been **Testifying** to **WHO** Jesus Christ **IS** . . . hasn't He ?

All the way <u>thru the O.T.</u>

In <u>the Incarnation</u> (birth) of Jesus – *(over 300 prophecies)* At <u>His Baptism</u> - & At <u>the Cross</u> <u>Thru-out Acts</u> & the beginning of the church

& right up to **TODAY** – in **YOUR HEART**

The Holy Spirit is <u>Presently & Actively</u> <u>Testifying</u> to God's <u>Truth</u> about <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ is

& He will <u>light these truths alive</u> in your heart <u>If you will believe</u>

Glance down at V.10

<u>1Jn 5:10(A) - ESV</u>

10 Whoever <u>believes</u> in the Son of God <u>has the testimony</u> in himself.

Do you see the word <u>BELIEVES</u> <u>connected to</u> the phrase <u>HAS THE TESTIMONY in himself ?</u>

<u>Some people</u> like to <u>talk</u> about <u>WHICH</u> comes first <u>You Believing</u>– OR - The <u>Holy Spirit's Testimony</u> in your heart

But God exists <u>OUTSIDE</u> of time So – where <u>God exists</u> – which comes first <u>isn't the issue</u>

What matters is the fact that <u>BELIEVING</u> & having the <u>TESTIMONY of the Holy Spirit</u> in your heart Go Together

& so - If you <u>Downright</u> – <u>Permanently</u> <u>REFUSE</u> to believe The Holy Spirit will <u>NOT confirm</u> the Testimony of God in your heart

- But if you will <u>CHOOSE</u> to Believe The Holy Spirit will <u>BE</u> your <u>POWER</u> to Believe . . .
- & He will <u>confirm</u> the Testimony of God About <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u>

Because He IS the Spirit of Truth

Are you with me? Now – John Summarizes in Vs's 7 & 8

But I want to ask you to **look at the screen** to **read these 2 Vs's** with me

<u>1Jn 5:7-8 - ESV</u> 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the <u>Spirit</u> and the <u>water</u> and the <u>blood</u>; and these three agree.

The <u>continual Testimony</u> of the <u>Holy Spirit</u> The <u>miraculous</u> events at <u>the Baptism</u> of Jesus The <u>even more miraculous</u> events at the Cross

These <u>3 Witnesses</u> all are in <u>Perfect Agreement</u> That Jesus Christ <u>IS</u> the <u>Son of God</u> – <u>Messiah</u> - <u>Savior</u>

<u>THIS</u> – is the <u>3-fold testimony</u> of God About <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u>

And we can **Absolutely** - **Guaranteed** - Count on it

- Now if you're reading <u>KJ</u> or <u>NKJ</u> There are some <u>additional words</u> in <u>V.7</u> re: *the Witness in Heaven*
- These words <u>refer</u> to the great truth of <u>the Trinity</u> But - they were <u>not</u> in the <u>original</u> <u>manuscripts</u>
- & <u>NKJ</u> gives you a <u>footnote</u> to that effect <u>If you'd like more info</u> on that – **come see me later**

So – We have this 3-fold testimony of God About WHO Jesus Christ IS

The <u>Holy Spirit</u> – The <u>Baptism</u> - & the <u>Cross</u> not to mention many, many others

Back in **Deut 19** God's Law lays out . . .

That - on <u>the Testimony</u> of <u>TWO</u> or <u>THREE</u> Witnesses We can <u>receive</u> (confirm) <u>the Truth</u>

But God's **<u>NOT saying</u>** believe this on 2 or 3 HUMAN witnesses

He's not saying "Hey, Believe, Dave, & Jeff, & Nick"

God is saying – *"BELIEVE GOD"* – <u>The God of the UNIVERSE</u> & He <u>still</u> gives us a <u>threefold witness</u>

& if God's Law tells us to believe an event based on the Testimony of <u>**Two**</u> or <u>**Three**</u> *HUMAN* Witnesses How much more should we <u>Fully & Completely</u> believe The <u>THREE-FOLD</u> witness of <u>GOD</u> <u>Himself</u>

Let's read <u>Vs's 7-8-9</u> together If you have <u>NKJV</u> – follow on the screen

<u> 1Jn 5:7-9 - ESV</u>

7 For there are three that testify: 8 the <u>Spirit</u> and the <u>water</u> and the <u>blood</u>; and these three agree. 9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for <u>this is the testimony of God</u> that he has borne concerning his Son.

THIS – is the testimony of God - It's the 3-fold testimony of; The continual, work of the Holy Spirit The miraculous events of the Baptism The even more miraculous events of the Cross

- Not to mention the countless other Miracles & Proofs That absolutely saturate The Bible
- & (v.9 says) <u>if we receive</u> the <u>testimony of men</u> How much <u>GREATER</u> is the Testimony of <u>GOD</u>
- If <u>God</u> has gone to such a <u>great & miraculous</u> extent To <u>PROVE</u> the <u>Testimony of His Son</u>
- & if we then <u>**REJECT**</u> it When the <u>Miraculous Proof</u> is absolutely <u>**OFF THE CHART**</u>

& if we <u>STILL Reject it</u> Then we definitely - have <u>no one to blame</u> – <u>but ourselves</u> & so - <u>because</u> God has <u>made</u> the Truth about <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ is - <u>so clear</u> - & <u>so proven</u>

The <u>only way</u> we can <u>DENY</u> it Is to actually <u>Call God</u> – A LIAR !!

<u>1Jn 5:10 - ESV</u>

10 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever <u>does not believe God</u> has <u>made him a liar</u>, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

- God has been testifying of His Son since Creation
- **Every Page** of the Bible (in some way) **tells His Story**
- Over <u>300 Prophecies</u> miraculously <u>fulfilled</u> about his birth & life & all of it – a Testimony of the work of the <u>Holy Spirit</u>
- & then The <u>Miraculous Witness</u> at <u>His Baptism</u> (not to mention over & over in His life)
- & then The *Most Miraculous Witness* at **The Cross**
- <u>& ALL of it to Absolutely **PROVE** to you</u> & to me <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u> . . . & <u>WHY</u> you & I <u>CANNOT</u> go to heaven without Him
- & <u>if God</u> has done <u>ALL</u> this <u>To Prove</u> to you & I – <u>WHO</u> Jesus is - & <u>WHY</u> we Need Him
- Then if we say I REFUSE TO BELIEVE IT It's like <u>staring God</u> in the face - & saying – YOU LIAR !!!
- **Because** you're saying **everything** GOD is Testifying to Is **NOT TRUE** – When He's Proven it – <u>over & over</u>

I promise you – it will <u>NOT go well</u> for you To "<u>face off</u>" God - & Call Him a <u>LIAR</u>

& so – finally – <u>What IS</u> the <u>SUMMARY</u> of <u>God's Testimony</u> about Jesus Christ

<u> 1Jn 5:11 - ESV</u>

11 And this <u>is</u> the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

<u>THIS</u> is the <u>Testimony</u> – the <u>Summary</u> <u>THIS</u> is what God is <u>proving to us</u> over & over again

11 . . . this is the testimony (of God), that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

<u>God – GAVE US – Eternal Life</u> He has <u>GIVEN IT</u> to us – As a <u>GIFT</u> & this Eternal Life – is <u>IN His</u> <u>Son</u>

<u>**HOWEVER</u>** – What do you have to do In order to <u>**BENEFIT**</u> from a Gift?</u>

You have to **<u>RECEIVE</u>** it, right ?

<u>Have you ever</u> had someone try to <u>GIVE</u> you a Gift & you (generally out of your <u>PRIDE</u>) – you <u>REFUSE</u> it

"Oh, no, I couldn't. I can't do that, no I can't receive that"

Pls hear me – if you <u>**REJECT**</u> the <u>**Gift**</u> The <u>**GIVER**</u> has <u>**STILL**</u> Given it

HOWEVER – Because you refuse to <u>RECEIVE</u> it you <u>CANNOT</u> benefit from it

Even tho, the Gift - WAS GIVEN

<u>**God**</u> has extended to <u>**us**</u> the <u>**greatest**</u> possible <u>**gift**</u> for all eternity

& if you will <u>Receive</u> it, it will be <u>yours</u> If you <u>reject</u> it, it will <u>NOT</u> be yours

When you <u>**RECEIVE</u>** a Gift – You <u>**HAVE**</u> it & when you <u>**HAVE**</u> that gift – you <u>*receive the Benefit*</u> of it</u>

& <u>HERE</u> – is the benefit . . .

<u>1Jn 5:12 - ESV</u>

12 Whoever <u>has</u> the Son <u>has</u> life; whoever <u>does not have</u> the Son of God <u>does not have</u> life.

Look very carefully for me

<u>Vs.11</u> says – The <u>GIFT</u> God gave us – *is Eternal Life and this life is* <u>IN</u> *his Son*

& so (V.12 says) – Whoever <u>has</u> the Son <u>has</u> life; whoever <u>does not have</u> the Son of God <u>does not have</u> life

It really <u>can't</u> get <u>much clearer</u> than that . . . Except maybe – to <u>explain</u> what it means to <u>HAVE</u> the Son

But let's start by explaining what it DOES NOT mean

To HAVE the Son – DOES NOT mean

- 1) an intellectual agreement with a religious concept
- 2) acknowledging that God exists, or even that Jesus exists

To *HAVE* the Son – is best described by *King SOLOMON*

Song of Solomon 6:3 – ESV 3 I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine . . .

Having the Son implies *"<u>A bond</u> of permanent, intimate relationship"*

<u>THAT</u> is what it means - when John says Whoever <u>has</u> the Son <u>has</u> life

It is a **Permanent** – **Relational** - **BOND**

Whoever <u>has</u> the Son <u>has</u> life; whoever <u>does not have</u> the Son of God <u>does not have</u> life

God has <u>given us</u> <u>Eternal Life</u> & that life – <u>is in</u> His <u>Son</u>

But a Gift is of **NO BENEFIT** - - Unless you **RECEIVE IT**

We <u>CANNOT</u> acknowledge Jesus Christ As a "Good Teacher" or even "a Prophet"

We must <u>HAVE HIM</u> – He must be <u>Ours</u> as our <u>Lord</u> - & as our <u>Savior</u>

We must <u>HAVE Him</u> - - & <u>HE must HAVE Us</u>

I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine . . .

God has <u>given you</u> absolute guaranteed <u>Testimony</u> About <u>WHO</u> Jesus Christ <u>IS</u>

Please – <u>Don't</u> call God a <u>LIAR</u>

<u>Jesus is - The Christ</u> – The Savior come from God <u>IN HIM</u> is <u>LIFE</u> - - & <u>apart</u> from Him – is <u>DEATH</u>

<u>1Jn 5:11</u> And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

<u>12</u> Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Let's Pray