

## Intro:

As children, we watched TV on a black and white television set.

We could never get a very good picture; it was always fuzzy and going into lines.

We were quite happy with it since we did not know anything different.

One day, we discovered all it needed was an aerial antenna!

Suddenly, we found that we could get clear and distinct pictures. Our enjoyment was transformed.

Now, not only do we have color television, but we can also get high definition (HD).

There are no fuzzy lines or distortions, and it produces a richer, bolder, and more vibrant picture than ever before.

Rather than black and white, or even color, Jesus offers you *high-definition life*.

There are two Greek words for 'life'.

The word '*bios*', from which we get the word 'biological' means the condition of being \*alive\* rather than dead – mere existence.

The other word '*Zoe*' (comes from the name Eve) means the full, abundant, spacious, open-hearted, richness of life

that Jesus speaks about – a life of fulfilment and purpose. This is life in *high definition*.

## “High-Definition Life”

**Scripture Reading:** John 5:30-47

### Text:

**John 5:40 (KJV)**

<sup>40</sup>And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

If we fail to see that the Bible is about Jesus and a relationship with him, reading it can easily become a dry, academic, and arid activity.

Once you understand that it is all about Jesus, and you see that studying the Bible is a way to grow in your relationship with him, it becomes the source of life (v.40).

On numerous occasions, especially in John's Gospel, Jesus refers to this life as 'eternal life' (for example, v.39).

How can you know that Jesus really is who he says he is?

As if in a court of law, Jesus calls *four witnesses*, as evidence, to support his case.

## I. Other People

The *first witness* Jesus calls is *other people* – in particular, John the Baptist (vv.31–35).

John came as ‘a witness to testify’ (1:7).

### **John 1:7 (KJV)**

<sup>7</sup>The same [John the Baptist] came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe.

## II. **His Own Life Work**

The *second witness* Jesus calls is his *own life work*.

This is a ‘weightier’ witness than the first one – it is the ‘very work the Father has given me to *finish*’ (5:35), which culminates in the resurrection of the crucified Christ who cries out on the cross,

‘It is *finished*’ (19:30).

## III. **His Own Father**

The *third witness* Jesus calls is the *Father’s direct testimony* (5:37).

You too can experience his direct testimony today through his Spirit in your heart (15:26).

### **John 15:26 (KJV)**

<sup>26</sup>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:*

## IV. **The Open Bible**

The *fourth witness* Jesus calls is the *Scriptures*.

The whole Bible is about Jesus and about coming into a relationship with him. Jesus says, ‘These are the Scriptures that *testify about me*’ (5:39). He says, ‘Moses... *wrote about me*’ (v.46).

It is possible to ‘study the Scriptures’ but miss the whole point.

Jesus says to religious leaders,

### **John 5:39-40 (KJV)**

<sup>39</sup>Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

<sup>40</sup>And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

Every time you study the Bible, expect to encounter Jesus.

### **Conclusion:**

Even though there is ample evidence about Jesus, ultimately coming to him is an act of the will.

And some, Jesus says, ‘refuse to come to me to have life’ (v.40). Why would anyone refuse?

**Invitation Hymn:** (Bro. Steve selects)

Bruce Beach—5/21/23—a.m. @ WHBC, Dalton

Some are not willing to put God first in their lives (v.42).

Others are more concerned about what people think than about what God thinks (v.44).

Still others simply refuse to believe despite the evidence (vv.46-47).

Jesus touches our fundamental sin. We are continually seeking honor, glory and admiration from one another – seeking our own glory (v.44).

Do not worry about what other people think. What God thinks is what matters.

Encounter Jesus again today and enjoy the full, abundant, spacious, open-hearted, *high-definition life* [“Zoe”] which Jesus offers.

**Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, today I come to you – the source of life. As I study the Scriptures, may my heart burn within me as I encounter you.

Lord, thank you that I can enjoy ‘*high-definition living*’, life in all its fullness, through faith in Jesus.

Please give me, today, wisdom and energy through the power of your Holy Spirit within me.