

*March 17, 2013*

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**TIME OF REFLECTION**

“But witnesses incur responsibilities, as anyone who has ever seen a traffic accident and had to go to court to testify, knows. In the new world of globally televised war crimes, the defence of ‘not knowing,’ or neutrality, will dissolve for everyone. To be a witness or bystander is not a value-free choice but, inadvertently, a moral position; and in this sense the ‘guilt’ of people who live with the memory of crimes committed by members of their families, or communities, has been unwittingly extended to everyone who watches appalling pictures on the news.”

~Erna Paris (1938-present), *Long Shadows: Truth, Lies and History*

“Even on the cross He did not hide Himself from sight; rather, He made all creation witness to the presence of its Maker.”

~ St. Athanasius of Alexandria (296-373), *On the Incarnation*

“I don’t pray because it doesn’t work. Prayer doesn’t fix anything. Bad things happen anyway.”

~ Nicholas Sparks, *Three Weeks With My Brother*

“We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there’s nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all. Most of us would prefer, however, to spend our time doing something that will get immediate results. We don’t want to wait for God to resolve matters in His good time because His idea of ‘good time’ is seldom in sync with ours.”

~Oswald Chambers (1874-1917)

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## *Worship through the Word*

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**SERMON** – “On the Witness Stand”– *Markes Wilson*

**SERMON PASSAGE** – *1 John 5:5-11 (NASB)*

<sup>5</sup>Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>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. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; 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. <sup>11</sup>And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup>He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

<sup>13</sup>These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup>This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. <sup>15</sup>And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.