

THE WITNESS OF GOD

1 John 5:9-13

Witnesses are very important...John starts us off with three types of witness:

Witness of Men.

First generally speaking eyewitnesses to anything carry significant weight in any discussion.

John is saying, in a general sense...we witness things and believe them! I saw the accident; I heard the person say it;
I was at the meeting and heard them...

Why can't we believe what God says? Why do we find it so hard to believe "thus sayeth the Lord"?

Witness of the Law.

One witness is not enough to convict anyone accused of any crime or offense they may have committed.

A matter must be established by the testimony of 2 or 3 witnesses. (Dt 19)

"By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established." (2 Cor 13.1)

John is saying:

If we as Jewish Xians believe the law and fully accept the account of two witnesses, should we not believe the greater witness of the Holy Spirit?

Witness of False Teachers.

Remember the early church was dealing with the Gnostic teachers, saying:

Jesus did not come in the flesh, that he did not die on the cross etc.

Jesus was a fully enlightened human filled with divine knowledge

I believe John is saying: There are some of you that are believing the words of men! Shouldn't we first believe the words of God?

If man says...but the Word says...*which one should we believe?*

John started this little letter with:

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon,
and our hands have handled, (concerning the Word of life...)

You are listening to that TikTok...YouTube...FB post...Instasham meme...*BUT...I saw Him...touched Him...handled Him...*

The false teacher says:

God lives in unapproachable splendor and has NO dealings with the world of matter.

But God says:

Isaiah 57:15 NKJV

For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:

"I dwell in the high and holy place, AND

With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble,
And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

The false teacher says:

Matter was created by a god called the demiurge, and we are all bound by evil matter

But God says:

-In the beginning God created, and six times he repeated that it was good..

-The sons are free The truth shall make you free If the Son makes you free, free indeed (Romans): six times... Free from Law, sin, death

-I am NOT bound by matter and an evil demiurge...I am free!

The false teacher says:

Only those who possess the divine spark of knowledge can escape this realm of death

But God says:

1 Corinthians 1

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus,

who became for us wisdom from God-and righteousness and sanctification and redemption

Because of that:

Ephesians 1

...the Father of glory, given you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;

that you may know what is the hope of His calling,

what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe,

according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead

and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion,

and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

The false teacher says:

Jesus only appeared to have a body, but was in reality a divine spirit.

But God says:

John 1:14,16 NKJV

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.

The false teacher says:

(The Gospel of Philip) "The world came into being through a mistake." Just an evil accident.

But God says:

-But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. (Gal 4)

-And we know that all things work together...

-(WHY?)Ephesians 1:9-10

He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ,

both which are in heaven and which are on earth-in Him.

So the question comes to us: Who do we believe?!

Stated so well by Joshua so many years ago: choose you this day whom you believe...

NOW THE CHOICE:

Witness of the God.

FIRST, the Witness of Jesus

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

God was manifested in the flesh,	Justified in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,	Preached among the Gentiles,
Believed on in the world,	Received up in glory. (1 Tim 3)

SECOND, the Witness of Eternal Life

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish,
neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all;
and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.
I and my Father are one. (Jn 10)

From that one statement we see that IN our Eternal life there is:

- Duration
- Quality
- Security