

HE'S ONE OF US!

1 Jn 5.6ff

Allow me to tie some different thoughts together for a moment.

John ends this letter with a very short punctuation mark:

Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Little children, guard yourselves from idols—false teachings, moral compromises, anything that would take God's place in your heart.

How easy it is for us to allow idolatry into our lives.

Possessions, people, pursuits, emotions, feelings, hurts...can all lead to small hidden idols that interfere with the mind of Christ in us.

But anything can become an idol! Culture,, history, heritage...Talents, Bank accounts,

And what amazes me about what we'll discuss today is how Jesus for the entire time on earth never allowed anything to interfere with his  
*direct communication and obedience to the Father.*

But before we get into our main text I need to take a little diversion...

One of the things I enjoy about expository preaching is that it forces us to address topics that we ordinarily would avoid.

Verse 7 and 8 contain a sentence that is not in the original manuscripts.

Nearly all of your Bibles will have a note stating that the phrase starting "in heaven to...on earth"  
is not found in the early manuscripts and should be omitted (Added 12th, 13th, 16th)

So it should read:

"For there are three that bear witness: the spirit, the water and the blood. These three agree as one."

Now how do we get here? The Bible that you are currently reading on your lap, really did not come into existence until about the 1500s.

The Bible consists of historical accounts, letters, prophecies, etc.

Written on papyrus (pithy stem of a water plant...)

For instance, 1 John was written, passed around, and eventually fell apart into pieces.

We call these manuscript fragments. We have been collecting them for 2000 years.

The Bible of today consists of thousands of fragments merged together by scholars...

After that, people of all languages started translating the Bible from Latin to their language.

1382 John Wycliffe, handwritten manuscripts of the entire Bible in English.

1455 After the invention of the printing press in Germany, Gutenberg, (Latin Vulgate).

1516 Erasmus produces a Greek New Testament, the Textus Receptus.

Tyndale ; Coverdale; Matthew Henry; Geneva; then finally... King James

SO WHY the changes, then?

Jerome, Wycliffe, King Jmes did not have the fragments that were found in 1750; 1800; 1920

So we have a constant updating of Scripture every time we find a new fragment somewhere.

Currently 5800+ fragments, stored all over the world (Dublin, Rome, America, England)

...NO contradictions...and the more we discover, *the more accurate the Word becomes!*

Think about that! 2000 years of writing/talking, dozens of languages, different continents, cultures...message is the same!

So when you see something like this passage...understand why the changes occur...but the message is the same.

“For there are three that bear witness: the spirit, the water and the blood. These three agree as one.”

But now, to the message: He has become one of us through the Water and Blood (vs 6) and the Spirit, Water and Blood (vs 7-8)

### **HE IS ONE OF US...THROUGH THE INCARNATION**

We just celebrated Christmas...the moment in time when God became flesh. He was born like you and me.

Mary's water broke just like your mother's did

Mary travailed with birth pangs just like your mother did

Jesus messed his diaper just like I did. He cried when he was hungry; He might have even sucked his thumb.

He fell and scraped his knees; He felt all the things we felt growing up: growing pains; perhaps the awkwardness...

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities;

but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Heb 4.15)

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sin offerings You took no delight.

Then I said, ‘Here I am, it is written about Me in the scroll: I have come to do Your will, O God.’”

He tabernacled among us for 33 years!

He is one of us! He knows me...gets me...“Feel ya dude”

### **HE IS ONE OF US THROUGH HIS OBEDIENCE AND DEATH**

HE stood in line and waited to be baptized in water!

(Repeat) HE stood in line and waited to be baptized in water!

HE did what his mother and father told him to do...even at the Marriage of Cana...

I only do what the Father tells me...

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God,

did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, KENEO: to make void.

Like an Olympic runner in a charity race with toddlers...

Voided his Olympic attributes in order to stay alongside toddlers.

:He is still a peak athlete...limiting himself.

taking the form of a bondservant, (slave) and coming in the likeness of men.

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death even the death of the cross.

### **HE IS ONE OF US THROUGH HIS VICTORY ON THE CROSS**

The water washed us and the blood cleansed us!