

**John 5:30-47**

February 8, 1987

**Rome Ga.**

**November 3, 2013**

Subject: Testimony as to the deity of Jesus Christ.

Theme: The lack of belief on the part of the Jew extended to every sphere of testimony that related to the Lord Jesus Christ. They failed to believe Him, His works, the testimony of John the Baptist, the Testimony of God, the testimony of the Word of God, or anything else that confirmed His Deity. They were concerned only with the honor of men. V. 44. **"How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?"**

Proposition: There are many witnesses vying for our ear in this day. Many speak falsely against our Savior. (Cf. the false accusers of Christ Matt. 26:59-60.) They are often regarded more highly than Christ. (cf. Jn.5:43 - **I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.**) If we listen to them, at the very least they will cause us to question our relationship to Christ.

INTRODUCTION:

Friday (Nov. 1, 2013) in Macon with Jim Jones, Southern Safety. High-school kids coming in classes, etc. Jim had a fire extinguisher there for the boys to take apart. Most of them unscrewed one or two pieces from it. One boy was intent on tearing it down to a million tiny pieces – in spite of Jim pointing out that special tools were needed to proceed). I commented that I would never give him an electric train for Christmas. (*sub-note – grammar school chum who never got to play with his train because he took the engine apart on Christmas morning.*)

**DB. 3/11/79.** *I once read of an 18 year old boy who had a deep interest in scientific subjects, especially astronomy.* His father bought him a very expensive telescope. Since the young fellow had also studied optics, he found the instrument to be most intriguing. He took it apart and examined the lenses, and made detailed calculations on the distance of its point of focus. **He became so absorbed in gaining a technical knowledge of the telescope that he never got around to looking at the stars. He knew a lot about that fine instrument but he missed seeing the wonders of the heavens.**"

For many people – they are so interested in dissecting the WOG that they never truly study the WOG and discover eternal life.

This is not to say that we are not to be **"rightly divide the word of truth."** We are indeed to study it diligently. But our end goal is not to know all the facts and figures contained therein but rather to **Know the One** about whom this Book of Books speaks. Our goal is always the same as that expressed by the apostle Paul in **Phil. 3:10 "THAT I MAY KNOW HIM AND THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION."**

Indeed Jesus exhorted those who sought to slay Him - **John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

**Testimony** and **witness** are two of John's favorite words. **In this passage he presents to us the testimony that supports our belief that Jesus Christ is God. He begins by first giving us the testimony of Christ Himself and then corroborates this with other witnesses as well.**

READ **30 AND 31.**

According to **Numbers 35:30**, "...one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die."

and **Deuteronomy 17:6** says " at the **mouth of two witness or three witness**, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death."

**Deut. 19:15** "One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, that he sinneth; at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established."

Jesus in **Jn. 8:17-18** reminded them that

" **It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.**

**Joh 8:18 I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.**

8:14 = ""**Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, . . . .**"

Since **Jesus knew their heart**, He wanted to make sure that all bases were touched. His testimony in and of itself was not enough to allow a jury to reach a verdict. It was insufficient evidence. There was a need for other **corroborating testimony**. This is **what He presents in 32-47.**

## **I. JESUS' TESTIMONY CONCERNING HIMSELF**

### **John 5:17, then 18-19**

- Jesus claimed that He was **EQUAL IN PERSONAGE** with the Father. 17
- Jesus claimed that He was **EQUAL IN POWER** with the Father 17
- Jesus claimed that He was **EQUAL IN PRACTICE** with the Father. 19-20

According to **John in 1:18** "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the **bosom of the Father**, He hath declared Him.

❖ Because of the Father's love for the Son, He shows Him all things!

- God loves the Son. **Matt. 3:17** "This is my beloved Son."



WHOSOEVER, Jew or Gentile, male or female, bond or free, may receive Christ and have eternal life. BUT WHOSOEVER, Jew or Gentile, male or female, bond or free, THAT FAILS TO HONOR THE SON, THEY ARE ETERNALLY SEPARATED FROM THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE FATHER.

\*\*\*\*\***31 AND 32**\*\*\*\*\* There is another who bears witness of me...and I know his witness is true."

## II. THE MANIFOLD TESTIMONY OF OTHERS CONCERNING JESUS.

### A. **33-35** THE WITNESS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

33 Ye sent unto John... **Cf. Jn. 1:26**

**Joh 1:24** And they which were sent were of the Pharisees.

**Joh 1:25** And they asked him, and said unto him, Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet?

**Joh 1:26** John answered them, saying, I baptize with water: **but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not;**

What was John's testimony? He said that this Jesus was;

Equal in **PERSONAGE** with the Father **Jn. 1:34** " I saw and bore witness that this is the Son of God." Cf. v. **30** and the **PRE-EXISTENCE** of Christ.

**Equal in POWER and PRACTICE with the Father.** Cf. **Mark 2:5-7.**

#### **Paralytic man whose sins were forgiven.**

Jews question "who can forgive sins but God alone." When John the Baptist saw Jesus he testified to the **POWER** of Christ to forgive sin when he exclaimed in **Jn. 1:29**, "**Behold the Lamb of God WHO taketh away the sin of the world.**"

Not only in **POWER and PRACTICE but also in ADJUDICATION**, that is in the **JUDGEMENT** of SIN. Not just the forgiveness of individual sins, but the removal of the curse of SIN and its ability to slay men.

**John the Baptist** said also that **HE is Equal in ANIMATION** **John 1:33** "....THE SAME IS HE WHO BAPTISETH WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

It is the Spirit of God that places us into the Body of Christ and it is this placement that makes us **PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE.** Cf. **Jn. 14:16** and **II Peter 1:4.**

**Joh 14:16** **And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;**

**2Pe 1:4** Whereby are given unto us exceeding **great and precious promises**: that by these **ye might be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

John the Baptist said that Jesus was **WORTHY OF ADORATION**. The one who according to Jesus was the **Greatest of all the prophets**, said that he was not worthy to even loose the shoe laces of Jesus! Cf. 1:27.

**John 5:35** He was a burning and a shining light: and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light.

**John 5:36** **But I have greater witness than *that of John***: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.

## B. THE WITNESS OF THE WORKS THAT JESUS DID v. 36

**John 10:37-38.** If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, **though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that** you may know and believe that the Father *is* in Me, and I in Him."

IF THAT IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU, **THE FATHER HIMSELF IS MY WITNESS**. John **5:37-38**.

**Joh 5:37** And the **Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me**. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.

**Joh 5:38** And ye have not his word abiding in you: **for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not**.

## C. THE TESTIMONY OF THE FATHER. 37-38

At the **Baptism of Jesus** in **Matt. 3:17** " and lo a voice from Heaven, saying, **THIS IS MY BELOVED SON IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED**."

But Jesus went on to say that it was obvious that they had not heard the voice of God nor did they have an understanding of His Word, for **if they had, they would have SERVED JESUS rather than seeking to SLAY JESUS**. cf. 18.

**Joh 5:18** **Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.**

You DON'T BELIEVE ME,

You DON'T BELIEVE JOHN THE BAPTIST,

You DON'T BELIEVE MY WORKS,

You DON'T BELIEVE THE FATHER,

AND, you DON'T BELIEVE THE WORD OF GOD WHICH YOU KNOW CONTAINS THE WORDS OF LIFE!

#### D. THE TESTIMONY OF THE SCRIPTURES. 39-47

**Joh 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

**Joh 5:40** And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

**Joh 5:41** I receive not honour from men.

**Joh 5:42** But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you.

**Joh 5:43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.**

**Joh 5:44** How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?

**Joh 5:45** Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is *one* that accuseth you, *even* Moses, in whom ye trust.

**Joh 5:46** For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.

**Joh 5:47** But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?

**YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ME NOR BELIEVE ME BECAUSE YOU DO NOT IN FACT RECEIVE NOR BELIEVE THE WORD OF GOD!.**

"SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES, 39" Christ told them, **because these are they which testify of me!**

In **Luke 24:13** ff. on the **road to Emmaus**, Jesus had an interesting conversation with two early Jewish disciples... **READ 25-27.**

**Luk 24:25** Then he said unto them, **O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:**

**Luk 24:26** **Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?**

**Luk 24:27** And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto **them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.**

"ALL THE SCRIPTURES, -----THINGS CONCERNING HIMSELF!"

**AND THOSE WHO COME TO THE WORD OF GOD WITH A SEEKING HEART, GOD WILL NOT DISAPPOINT.**

**THOSE BELIEVERS TODAY WHO NEGLECT TO STUDY AND TEACH THE WORD OF GOD AND ALL THAT IT HAS TO SAY OF THE SAVIOR, SHORTCHANGE THEMSELVES AND THE LOST AROUND THEM, AND CREATE PROBLEMS FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD!**

SEE ACTS 17:10-11 THEN 12 THEN 13-15.

**Act 17:10** And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming *thither* went into the synagogue of the Jews.

**Act 17:11** These were **more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.**

**Act 17:12** Therefore **many of them believed**; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

**Act 17:13** **But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached** of Paul at Berea, they came thither also, and **stirred up the people.**

**Act 17:14** And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still.

**Act 17:15** And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens: and receiving a commandment unto Silas and Timotheus for to come to him with all speed, they departed.

Jesus told them to SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES because they had failed to do so in the past. They had come to see only that which they DESIRED TO SEE. **Their preconceived idea of what scripture had to say excluded the very idea that they were in need of a Savior. They could see only the outward things of the Word of God and not the deeper application that God desired for them.**

Cf. Matt. 23:23-33 ff.

**Mat 23:23** Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

**Mat 23:24** **Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.**

"...ye blind guides who strain at a gnat and swallow a camel."

They had studied the scriptures and memorized the Word of God but had never applied it to their lives in the way that God desired them to.

**(JUST like the boy and the telescope in opening remarks)**

**SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES....39-40. Joh 5:39** Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

**Joh 5:40** And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

These men would not come to the Savior because as He says in v. 44...\*

John 5:44 How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?

**They were not seeking to Honor God but rather that they might receive the honor of men.**

> TURN TO:> **Jn. 12:42-43**

**Joh 12:42** Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *him*, lest they should be put out of the synagogue:

**Joh 12:43** **For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.**

When men do this they **DAMN themselves!!!!** v. **45.....\*\*\*\*\* Joh 5:45** **Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is *one* that accuseth you, *even* Moses, in whom ye trust.**

DB 5/28/70. " A certain atheistic barber was conversing with a minister as they rode through the slums of a large city. Said the unbeliever, "If there is a loving God, how can He permit all this poverty, squalor, suffering and violence among these people? Why doesn't He save them from all this?"

Just then a **disheveled bum** crossed the street. He was unshaven and filthy, with long scraggly hair hanging down his neck. The minister pointed to him and said, "You are a barber and claim to be a good one, so why do you allow that man to go unkempt and unshaven?"

"Why - why -" the barber stuttered, (knowing he was answering his own question), "**he never gave me a chance to fix him up.**"

"Just so," said the minister, "**men are what they are because they reject God's help!**"

Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer, founder of Dallas Theological Seminary used to say that, "**GOD ALWAYS SPEAKS LOUD ENOUGH TO MAKE A WILLING SOUL HEAR.**"

**Yet, all too many men today fall into the category of men found in v. 43, they will follow anyone or anything to their death, but they refuse to follow Jesus to Eternal Life.**