

GOD'S TESTIMONY

1 John 5:6-12

Calvary Church of Pacific Palisades
January 16, 2011 ♦ Sunday Morning Worship

Please open Bibles ... 1 John 5:6-12. Page 864.

What you need, what we need most is LIFE. John tells us what it takes to come FULLY alive. ON surface difficult. I'm going to try and make sense out of it; so work with me to understand God saying.

READ:

Clearly, the theme in this section is "testimony" ... 8 times, count them.

You know what a testimony is ... i.e. Candace Bure. Sharing your story. Not about you, it is about the miracle of transformation JESUS has done in your life. Your story ... Jesus and you.

It's essential to have a testimony, hopefully you have one ... but did you ever think that God has one too?

1 John 5:6-12 is God's testimony, about His Son, Jesus the MESSIAH. Who He is and what He came to do.

He shares it with us, because He loves us and doesn't want us to miss out on the life He offers.

JOHN TELLS US THAT HIS TESTIMONY about Jesus IS GREATER than any other testimony.

John summons three witnesses ... To prove that Jesus is God's Son, and that life is found only in Him.

1. The Water and the Blood are a reference to Jesus MINISTRY. Min. framed by BAPTISM & CRUCIFIXION.

WATER IS A REFERENCE TO THE INAUGURATION of Jesus ministry, Jesus Baptism by John in Jordan.

BLOOD IS A REFERENCE TO THE CULMINATION of Jesus ministry, Jesus crucifixion.

INAUGURATION - John the Baptist ... **John 1:34 ... "I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God."**

Matthew informs us that when Jesus came up out of the water ... Heaven opened, Spirit descending as a Dove, Father spoke, "this is my son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased."

Jesus baptism was the inauguration of His ministry. Obediently submitting to the will of Father.

CULMINATION - Crucifixion. Roman Centurion ... **Matthew 27:54 "... surely he was the Son of God!"**

BLOOD reminds us that Jesus was born to die ... to do for us what we couldn't do for ourselves.

1 John 2:2 "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world."

Only He had the ability to pay for sin, to take what was dead and resurrect it to life.

Testimony John's referring to is ministry of Jesus, all that took place between His baptism & crucifixion, turning water into wine, feeding 5000, healing sick, raising dead, forgiving sin, on way to the cross.

Deut. 19:15 ¹⁵ One witness is not enough to convict a man accused of any crime or offense he may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

Because John was intent on making sure he didn't have his case thrown out of court, he didn't stop with two testimonies. He strengthens his case by citing three witnesses.

1. The Water and the Blood are a reference to Jesus MINISTRY.

The Water and the Blood ... and the third witness, the Spirit. Why the Spirit? To move out of the past and into the present. From historical fact, to personal experience.

The changes Jesus makes are rooted in history, but they are also personal.

2. The Spirit bears witness to the life of Jesus transforming the hearts of men.

Your life and mine are designed to come alive, EXPERIENCING the power and presence of Jesus Christ.

WE HAVE a TESTIMONY. The work God has done and is doing.

"Was that orange sweet or sour?" The speaker looked at him blankly. "How would I know? I never tasted it". To which replied: "So is it with Jesus. You'll never know unless you try Him? "

If you want to come alive ... put your faith and trust in Jesus, who lived and died to give life. The only way you will know His power to bring your heart alive is by receiving Him.

Not just testimony of historical past (Life and times) but the power of His presence TODAY.

i.e. When Jack got a newly constructed right pulmonary artery.

i.e. When the tree fell ... you sure are lucky.

i.e. Susie and the neighbors keys.

Experience His healing power, His protection, and His direction. Bringing to mind.

Water, blood, and Spirit agree ... that Jesus is God's Son. Jesus is the only source of true life.

John doesn't stop there ... if you don't trust historical facts, if you don't trust the transformation you see; then maybe you will trust God. After all, this is God's testimony. **God's testimony is GREATER**

WHAT If God appeared in physical form (every week pray God will show up ... My sister said Jesus show)

If He appeared and we asked God to give His testimony ... immediately start talking about His Son.

If you have children, infants or adults, you can relate. Nothing you'd rather talk about.

i.e. Parents with two kids, tell me about your children ... what are they like. Thought they'd never stop.

vv. 11,12 GOD'S TESTIMONY ... high point of John's letter. Summary of all He is relating. QUOTE IT.

3. The Father gives eternal life through Jesus Christ His Son.

You want life? God wants to give it to you ... what we have to do is believe in Him ... which means to commit ourselves fully to Him. To receive Him (John 1:12).

i.e. Bill ... extensive conversations. Really smart guy. Confided in me that he could figure out anything if he just put his mind to it. After half a dozen meetings, he proclaimed, I know that I am not. WHY?

Eternal life is found in Him, and only Him. Starts right now. Never ends. Relationship with Jesus.

Conclusion ...

Assured that no matter how dangerous or precarious life gets ... engine goes out, flying over the arctic wasteland. He has given you a life that cannot be taken away. It is your life, in Him, forever.

Question is ... Do you have the Son? Have you received the Son? Then you have life. Assurance.