

“Blessed Assurance: The True Testimony”

I John 5:6-12

Pastor Jim Oakley – January 27, 2019

THE THREE TESTIMONIES ARE TRUE, AUTHORITATIVE,
AND LIFE-GIVING.

1) THE THREE TESTIMONIES (v. 6)

a) Water and Blood

- Sacraments – Baptism, Communion
- Crucifixion – “blood and water” (see John 19:34)
- Historical experiences – Baptism, Crucifixion

b) Spirit

2) TRUE (v. 7,8)

3) AUTHORITATIVE (v. 9,10)

4) LIFE-GIVING (v. 11,12)

READ AHEAD FOR NEXT WEEK: 1 John 5:13-17

Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER: What was something you believed as a child that you stopped believing because someone told you otherwise? Were they right or wrong?

- 1) This is a debated passage because John doesn't tell us exactly what he means by “Water and the blood.” The three options are:
 - 1 - **Sacraments:** water = baptism, blood = Lord's Supper,
 - 2 - **Crucifixion:** Water and blood = what flowed together from Jesus' side from the spear during crucifixion (John 19:34-35),
 - 3 - **Historical experiences** of Jesus: water = Jesus' baptism and the blood = Jesus' crucifixion.What clues from the context of our passage would indicate the most likely interpretation?
- 2) How does the water testify to who Jesus is?
- 3) How does the blood testify to who Jesus is?
- 4) How does the Holy Spirit testify to who Jesus is?
- 5) What do these three agree about?
- 6) How could this be a corrective to what the false teachers in John's day were teaching?
- 7) Read Deuteronomy 19:15. Why are three testimonies legally required?
- 8) How is God's testimony weightier than man's?
- 9) What does it say about you when you don't believe God's testimony about Jesus?
- 10) How do verses 11-12 challenge the modern idea that all religions lead to God?
- 11) How does this passage speak assurance of salvation to your heart?
- 12) How might this passage motivate you to share your faith?
- 13) How can we pray for you this week?