

THE WITNESS OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

Introduction:

1. God has always confirmed truth through the testimony of witnesses (**Deuteronomy 19:15; Matthew 18:16**).
2. The apostle John emphasizes both heavenly and earthly testimony in affirming the identity of Jesus Christ (**1 John 5:6-9**).
3. In this passage, we see a clear witness from both heaven and earth pointing to the deity and mission of Christ.

1. The Three That Bear Record In Heaven: The Father, The Word, And The Holy Ghost:

- a. This heavenly witness affirms the divine nature of Christ and the unity of the Godhead (**1 John 5:7**). God the Father declared Jesus as His beloved Son (**Matthew 3:17**). The Word—Jesus Christ—came in the flesh to reveal the Father (**John 1:14; John 14:9**). The Holy Ghost confirmed Jesus through signs and miracles (**John 15:26; Acts 10:38**).
- b. These three are united in testimony and essence (**John 10:30; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6**). Their witness is not only harmonious but also divine, underscoring the unchangeable truth of Jesus' identity and mission.
- c. The authority of this witness surpasses all human testimony (**Hebrews 6:17-18**). Because it comes from God Himself, this witness is trustworthy, eternal, and compelling for all who seek to know the truth about Jesus Christ.

2. The Three That Bear Witness In Earth: The Spirit, The Water, And The Blood:

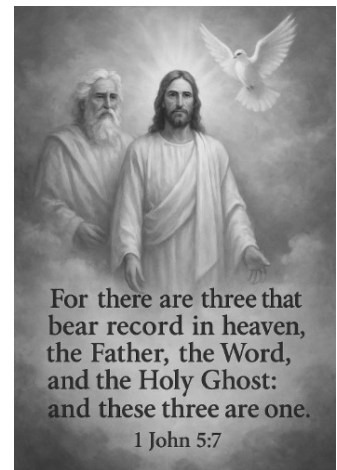
- a. The Spirit testifies through the inspired Word and inward conviction (**John 16:13; Romans 8:16**). He bears witness today through the gospel message, confirming Christ's identity and work.
- b. The water refers to Jesus' baptism, which marked the beginning of His public ministry (**Matthew 3:16-17**). At His baptism, the Father spoke from heaven and the Spirit descended, showing divine approval of the Son.
- c. The blood refers to His crucifixion, through which He fulfilled His redemptive mission (**John 19:34-35; Hebrews 9:14**). His death on the cross provided the atonement for sin, and the shedding of His blood fulfilled prophecy and satisfied divine justice.

3. The Call To Believe The Witness Of God:

- a. Believing this witness is not optional; it is essential for eternal life (**1 John 5:10-11**). Those who accept God's testimony have life through His Son. Those who reject it make God a liar.
- b. Faith must rest not on human testimony but on the divine witness from both heaven and earth (**1 Corinthians 2:5; 1 Thessalonians 2:13**). This is not mere tradition or opinion, but the clear revelation from God.
- c. The testimony centers in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who gives eternal life to those who believe (**John 3:16-18; 1 John 5:12-13**). He is both the object and the source of eternal life, and faith in Him brings confidence and assurance.

Conclusion:

1. **The Unity Of The Godhead Affirms The Nature Of God:** The Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost are three distinct persons yet perfectly united in essence and testimony. This unity reveals the divine nature and unchanging character of God (**1 John 5:7**).
2. **The Witness Of Heaven Confirms Our Faith On Earth:** The heavenly witnesses agree in their testimony of Jesus Christ as the Son of God, providing believers with divine assurance and firm ground for faith (**1 John 5:7**).
3. **The Testimony Of God Demands Our Response:** Since God Himself bears witness, we are not free to ignore His declaration. Faith in His Son and obedience to His Word are necessary and reasonable responses (**1 John 5:7**).



Applications:

- 1. Trust In The Divine Record:** We must rest our faith not on human traditions or changing opinions, but on the reliable and heavenly testimony of the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost (**1 John 5:7**).
- 2. Defend The Truth Without Apology:** In a world of spiritual confusion, we must boldly affirm the unity and deity of the Godhead, as declared in the preserved Word of God (**1 John 5:7**).
- 3. Live In Harmony With The Godhead:** Just as the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost are united in testimony, so too must our lives reflect that unity through love, obedience, and faithfulness (**1 John 5:7**).

Questions:

1. What does John declare about the testimony given in heaven (**1 John 5:7**)?
2. Why is the agreement of the three heavenly witnesses important to our faith (**1 John 5:7**)?
3. How should believers respond to the testimony given by God in heaven (**1 John 5:7**)?

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Questions With Answers:

1. What does John declare about the testimony given in heaven (**1 John 5:7**)?

Answer: John declares that there are three that bear record in heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost—and these three are one (**1 John 5:7**).

2. Why is the agreement of the three heavenly witnesses important to our faith (**1 John 5:7**)?

Answer: Because the agreement of the three heavenly witnesses provides divine, united confirmation of the truth concerning Jesus Christ, strengthening our confidence in the gospel (**1 John 5:7**).

3. How should believers respond to the testimony given by God in heaven (**1 John 5:7**)?

Answer: Believers should accept and act upon God's testimony with reverent faith and obedience, acknowledging the authority and unity of the Godhead (**1 John 5:7**).