

Witnesses to Christ 2019-04-07

John 5:31-32

If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not deemed true. There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true.

Put money where mouth is....give evidence what you say is true.

- Jesus claims He is one with the Father in nature/works, has power over death, is sovereign over spiritual life, in future raise all from dead and judge everyone justly.
 - Jesus presents witnesses/evidence his claims are true. John 5:31-32, 43, 8:13-14, Deuteronomy 19:15

Jesus acknowledge His test alone is not valid if acting independently of the Father.

- Hypocrisy: Historically Israel accepted 70 different "Messiahs" self-test and conflicting test with no objections (Matthew 26:60).....In future Antichrist.
2 Thessalonians 2:8

Jesus's 1st witness that His claims are true was prophet sent by Father who was once regarded as possible Messiah by Jews. John 33-35, 1:19-20, 29, 34

- Not "key witness" because human. Jesus is God regardless of human test.

Surpassing John the Baptist's testimony: miracles presented as evidence Jesus was one with the Father and on mission from Father. John 20:30-31, John 5:36, 3:2, 2:23

- Jews never deny Jesus' miracles but attributed to Satan. Matthew 12:24
 - Visible for examination but can be faked...Moses.

Both fade in light of final witness: Word John 5:37-40, Luke 24:26-27

- Father (main witness) bore test to Jesus's deity thru Jesus self-test (one with the Father), verbally @ Jesus' baptism/transfiguration (Matthew 3:17, 17:5) but context "voice" = Old Testament Scripture.

Old Testament writings/prophecies/types testify of Jesus ...Passover

- New Testament - 312 Old Testament passages quoted, 530 Old Testament references - 50 in Romans alone.
 - Those same scriptures available to any Jewish leader at that time will testify against them. John 5:45-47, 34
- Jews diligently read/study Scripture but ultimately did not believe Moses because they did not believe in Jesus whom Moses testified of. Galatians 3:21, Deuteronomy 18:15-18
 - Careful: know/revere script (good) but miss relationship with Jesus, living God of scripture who was right in front of you. *Gospel*

Jesus is central theme of ALL Word and He is key to unlocking Bible message. 2 Corinthians 3:14-18

- Only by trusting in Jesus is veil removed, Scriptures becomes clear, glory of Jesus revealed and Christian transformed into His image.
 - Accumulate biblical knowledge with the goal to know, love, worship Jesus more.
 - desire to follow Jesus (discipleship), grow, submit to his lordship...

- Natural man not have those delights/desires. If no desire=lost.

FATHER is main witness who testifies by means of all the others and One behind an additional witness to Jesus deity....Christians. 1 John 5:9, 2 Corinthians 5:19-20, 1 Peter 2:9, 3:15

- Witness is person with some experience/knowledge that can help establish truth of some fact that is in dispute...."proclaim" = "to tell out, to advertise."
 - Every Christian is a witness for Jesus....evidence of the truth of His claims.

People make judgment on Christianity and indirectly on Jesus when observe Christians.

- By grace be Christ-like in thought, speech, deeds. Matthew 12:34b, Philippians 4:8-9
 - Key: delight yourself in Jesus...then you'll think about His excellence resulting in speaking of His excellencies and acting Christ-like.

Now along with Scripture, Holy Spirit uses every Christian as a witness to Jesus amazing claims.

- Your life is evidence that Jesus claims of being God/Messiah/Savior true.