



Three Testimonies for Jesus Christ

1 John 5:6-12

This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth (1 John 5:6—KJV).

This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth (1 John 5:6—NASB).

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth (1 John 5:6—NRSV).

In 1 John 5:1-5, we learned that those born of God believe Jesus is the Christ and the Son of God. Furthermore, we learned that those who believe in Jesus as the Bible reveals Him overcome this world through faith in Him. John taught that belief or faith comes from historical evidence that can be examined and testimony that can be evaluated. Then, he wrote about three that testify regarding Jesus. John particularly chose these three because he and the Church needed to overcome false teachings. Some of these false teachings centered on whether Jesus came in the flesh as a human being. Because Gnostic teachers thought the human body was evil; they believed the Son of God would never contaminate himself by coming into the world with a real human body. We do not know all they taught, but John refuted them with historical evidence. First, John testified that Jesus came by water—Jesus was born of a woman. When Jesus was baptized in water, the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus and His Heavenly Father declared, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:13-17). Second, after Jesus died, a soldier pierced Him and John saw water and blood flow from Jesus’ side (John 19:34). Mercifully, Jesus shed His blood to cleanse believers from all sin (1 John 1:7). Third, the Holy Spirit testifies directly to people so they can evaluate truths He reveals, believe in Jesus Christ, and know they are born of God.

Thinking Further

1. How did Jesus come into the world?

2. What do you think John meant by how he described Jesus' coming?

3. In what way or ways did Jesus come by the first way John taught? How did the first way testify to us about Jesus? How do we respond?

4. In what way or ways was it important that John stressed the second way? How did the second way testify to us about Jesus? How do we benefit?

5. How did John describe the third way that testified about Jesus? Why do we believe in Jesus because of this third testimony?