



Lesson 14: Evidence That Demands a Verdict / 1 John 5:6-13

Message Focus: Examining the evidence that legitimizes Christianity.

Read 1 John 5:6-13

1. Some of the enemies of Christianity are relentless in their efforts to undermine the historic beliefs of Christians regarding the person and work of Jesus Christ. These critics seem bent on discrediting the Bible and those in it who lived and interacted with Jesus. It appears from our text, that there were people in John's day who were challenging the beliefs of Christians. In an effort to support the beliefs of the church, John mentions several "witnesses" in the text that support the beliefs held by the church. What is a good definition of a witness? (*Feel free to use a dictionary, if you want.*)

A.

2. In your opinion, what might hinder a person from being considered a credible witness?

A.

In your opinion, what makes a person a credible witness?

A.

3. Name someone in your lifetime who you consider to be a less than credible witness? Tell why. (*Think public figure, famous court case, someone whose testimony affected a lot of people or even a nation, etc..*)

A.

Name someone in your lifetime who you consider to be a very credible witness? Tell why?

A.

4. The Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) stands in unison proclaiming the authenticity of Jesus' work and ministry (*1 John 5:7*). How is this truth substantiated in the following verses?

Matthew 3:13-17

A.

John 14:15-17, 23-26

A.

5. Read 1 John 5:9. This verse begins by mentioning the "witness of men". Why should the writers of the New Testament be considered credible witnesses? (*See also 2 Timothy 3:16*)

A.

Did you accept as fact/truth the message about Jesus the first time you heard it? What do you remember about what you heard/thought? Who was the first person to talk to you about Jesus? How many times were you confronted with your need of salvation before you became a Christian?

A.

6. 1 John 5:10 says that those who know Jesus as Lord & Savior have an "internal" witness. That is, they have examined the evidence and have embraced as truth what the Bible says about Jesus. How is this truth further explained by Romans 8:16?

A.

Is the "internal" witness of the Holy Spirit based on facts or feelings? Why does it matter?

A.

****Please Note:** We will cover 1 John 5:11-13 in the Bible study portion.