

Ye Are My Witnesses!
Isaiah 43:8-13

Introduction:

1. According To George Barna, A Christian Researcher, “The Average Christian in America today will die without ever having shared his faith in Christ with another person.”
 - This Is A Very Sad Statement! Why Is It So Sad? Because We All Understand The Importance Of Sharing Our Faith In Christ With Others – Also Known As Witnessing!
 - Isn’t Witnessing What The Lord Commissioned His Disciples – You & Me – To Do? Wasn’t The Great Commission Some Of His Last Words On This Earth?
2. Witnessing Is Vital To The Life Of The Church & Is Vital In The Life Of Every Believer!
 - It Is Vital In Your Life! It Is Vital In Your Church!
 - But, Tonight, I Want Us To Realize That Not Just Any Witness Will Do!
3. ***The Lord Wants You To Be A Credible Witness For Him!***
 - A Credible Witness Is Someone Who Is Worthy Of Confidence & Is Capable Of Being Believed!
 - **IE:** Having A Credible Witness Is Important In A Court Of Law! Prosecutors Look For Witnesses That Have Flawless Testimonies! Defenders Will Try To Show That The Witness Is Either Confused About The Facts Or Even Committing Perjury – Trying To Destroy The Credibility Of The Witness!
 - It’s Great To Have A Witness!
 - But It’s Critical To Have A Credible Witness!
 - Are You A Credible Witness For The Lord?
 - Is Your Testimony For The Lord Worthy Of People’s Confidence?
 - Is Your Testimony For The Lord Capable Of Being Believed?
 - It’s Great If You Witness For The Lord!
 - But Are You A Credible Witness!
 - Does Your Life In Christ Back Up What You Say About Christ?
4. Isaiah 43:8-13 Brings Us Into A Court Scene & Shows Us The Importance Of Being A Credible Witness For The Lord!
 - 43:8 - Is A Summons To A Court Held By The Lord!
 - “Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears!”
 - The Lord Is Calling “All The Nations” (43:9)!
 - These Are The People Who Do Not Know Him, Believe In Him, Or Submit To Him!
 - They Are Blind & Deaf Even Though They Have Eyes & Ears!
 - Their God-Given Eyes & Ears Are Useless Because They Have Not Been Used To See Or Listen To The Things Of The Lord!
 - **IE:** Like A Child Ignoring His Parents! In One Ear & Out The Other - Never Stopping At The Important Place In The Middle!
 - A Good Lesson Here Is: Don’t Be A Blind Person With Eyes & A Deaf Person With Ears! Don’t Let Your Eyes & Ears Be Useless! Use Them For The Lord!
 - 43:9 - Is The Gathering Of The Court Held By The Lord!
 - “Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth!”
 - The Lord Is Now Gathering “All The Nations” In Order To Prove Once & For All That He Is The One, True God!
 - So Now, It Is “All The Nations” Of The World – Every Single Person Who Is Not A Genuine Believer – vs. The One, True God!
 - But, Even When “All The Nations” Of The World Are Unified Together In Order To Defeat The Lord, They Will Still Fail In Their Cause!
 - The Lord Asks:
 - “Who Among Them Can Declare This?”
 - Referring To Future Events – Like This Gathering Of All The Nations Before Him!
 - Noone!

- They Are Only There Because They Have To Be!
- “Who Among Them Can . . . Shew Us Former Things?”
 - Referring To Past Events – Like Their Own Creation!
 - Noone!
 - Even Though They Try & Even Have Convinced Themselves (**IE**: Through Evolution) - But It Is Still In Unproven (And In Fact, False) Theory!
- The Lord Demands:
 - “Let Them Bring Forth Their Witnesses!”
 - To Prove Their Worth Before Him!
- But They Have No Credible Witnesses!
 - They Have No Original, Eyewitness Testimony!
 - Because They Were Not There At The Beginning!
 - They Cannot Justify Themselves!
 - They Have No Confirming Testimony!
 - When They Hear Testimony, They Cannot Confirm It & Say: “It Is Truth” – Because They Don’t Know!
 - “All The Nations” Either Need To Offer Credible Testimony Or Admit What The Lord Says!
 - They Need To “Put-Up Or Shut-Up!”
- 43:10 - In This Court Of “All The Nations” The Lord Now Turns Directly To His People And Says An Astounding Statement:
 - “Ye Are My Witnesses!” - A Statement That Only Is Found In Isaiah!
 - Does The Lord Really Need Witnesses?
 - Yet, The Lord Really Has Chosen You & Me, As His People, To Be His Witnesses!
 - And Since You & I Are His Witnesses, Not Just Any Kind Of Witness Will Do!

5. ***The Lord Wants You To Be A Credible Witness For Him!***

- Let’s Look What It Means & What It Takes To Be A Credible Witness For The Lord!

1. ***How Did You Become The Lord’s Witness?***

- 43:10a - “Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen!”
- How Did You Become The Lord’s Witness?
 - He Chose You To Be His Witness!
 - He Chose You To Serve Him As His Witness!
 - This Verse Explains That Witnessing For The Lord Is How You Serve The Lord!
 - **IE**: A Call To Be A Witness Is A Call To Serve & Help With Your Testimony - Called 3 Times!
 - What An Honor! To Be Chosen As The Lord’s Witness!
- Not Chosen Because Of What You Have Seen & Heard!
 - Because You Would Be No Different Than Anyone Else In This World!
- Chosen Because Of What He Has Revealed To You!
 - You Could Never Be A Witness Of Something You Know Nothing About!
 - You Can Only Be A Witness For The Lord If The Lord Chose To Reveal Himself To You!
 - How Has The Lord Revealed Himself To You?
 - Through His Word!
 - Through His Works!
- The Lord **Chose** You To Be A Credible Witness For Him!
 - The Lord **Chose** To Reveal Himself To You!
 - The Lord **Chose** You To Reveal Him To Others!
 - Do You Recognize What An Honor This Is?

2. ***Why Did You Become The Lord’s Witness?***

- 43:10b - “That ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he!”
- The Lord Has A Reason For Choosing You As His Witness!

- And The Reason Given In Verse 10 Appears To Be Surprising At First!
- He Chose You To Be His Witness For Your Benefit!
 - So “That Ye May Know And Believe Me, And Understand That I Am He!”
- He Chose You To Be His Witness!
 - Not Primarily For The Sake & Benefit Of Others!
 - But Primarily For The Sake & Benefit Of You!
 - **IE:** Usually A Defense Lawyer Will Call A Witness To Get His Client “Off-The-Hook!”
God Calls You To Be His Witness To Get You “Off-The-Hook!” So You Can Know Him, Believe Him, Understand Him & Be Saved!
- He Chose You To Be His Witness!
 - Not Just For You To Be His Servant & Witness To Everyone In The World!
 - But For You To Be His Child & Know, Believe & Understand Him More & More!
- The Lord Chose You To Be A **Credible** Witness For Him!
 - We Will Never Be Able To Convince Others If We Are Not Yet Convinced Of The Lord Ourselves!
 - **IE:** Chicken Little Was Convinced The Sky Was Falling When An Acorn Fell On Her Head - She Convinced Henny Penny, Ducky Lucky, Goosey Loosey & Turkey Lurkey Because She “Saw It With Her Own Eyes, Heard It With Her Own Ears, & Part Of It Fell On Her Head!”
 - You Will Only Be A Credible Witness When You:
 - Know Him!
 - Believe Him!
 - Understand Him! More And More!
 - When: “You See Him With Your Own Eyes, Hear Him With Your Own Ears!”

3. ***What Does It Mean To Be The Lord’s Witness?***

- 43:12b - “Therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God!”
 - This Is What The Lord Wants You To Be A Witness Of!
 - This Is What The Lord Wants You To Be Convinced Of!
- The Lord Wants You To Know & Believe & Understand That:
 - He Alone Is The Eternal God!
 - 43:10c - “Before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me!”
 - Colossians 1:17 - “And he is before all things, and by him all things consist!”
 - Can You Be A Credible Witness If You Are Not Convinced That He Alone Is The Eternal God?
 - You Can Know It! Believe It! Understand It! Because God Has Chosen You To Be His Witness!
- The Lord Wants You To Know & Believe & Understand That:
 - He Alone Is The Exclusive Savior!
 - 43:11 - “I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour!”
 - Acts 4:12 - “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved!”
 - **IE:** Children’s Song: “One Way!”
 - Can You Be A Credible Witness For The Lord If You Are Not Convinced Yourself That He Alone Is The Exclusive Savior?
 - You Can Know It! Believe It! Understand It! Because God Has Chosen You To Be His Witness!
- The Lord Wants You To Know & Believe & Understand That:
 - He Alone Is The Self-Revealing Lord!
 - 43:12 - “I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God!”
 - He Alone Reveals Himself To The World!
 - Through His Word! Through His Works!
 - **IE:** Has Any Other God Done This? Can Any Other God Do This? Because All Other Gods Are Made By Man, They Are Only Revealed By Man!

- Can You Be A Credible Witness For The Lord If You Are Not Convinced Yourself That He Alone Is The Self-Revealing Lord?
 - You Can Know It! Believe It! Understand It! Because God Has Chosen You To Be His Witness!
- The Lord Wants You To Know & Believe & Understand That:
 - He Alone Is The All-Powerful One!
 - 43:13 - “Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?”
 - Because He Is Everlasting!
 - Because He Is Unchangeable!
 - Because He Can Deliver!
 - And Noone Can Hinder Him In Carrying Out His Plans!
 - Can You Be A Credible Witness For The Lord If You Are Not Convinced Yourself That He Alone Is The All-Powerful One?
 - **IE:** Who’s Side Would You Have Wanted To Be On When David Met Goliath! Would You Have Chosen David’s Side?
 - You Can Know It! Believe It! Understand It! Because God Has Chosen You To Be His Witness!
- In Fact, You Must Know It, Believe It, Understand It!
 - If You Are To Be A Credible Witness For The Lord!

Conclusion:

1. ***The Lord Wants You To Be A Credible Witness For Him!***
 - He Chose You For This Purpose!
 - He Revealed Himself To You For This Purpose!
 - You Can Know & Believe & Understand Him In Order To Fulfill This Purpose!
2. Are You A Credible Witness For The Lord?
 - Are You Convinced In Your Heart That The Lord Alone Is:
 - The Eternal God?
 - The Exclusive Savior?
 - The Self Revealing Lord?
 - The All-Powerful One?
 - Do You Know & Believe & Understand In Your Heart What You Say To Others With Your Words?
 - It’s Great To Have A Witness!
 - But It’s Critical To Have A Credible Witness!
 - After All, You Will Never Be Able To Convince Others If You Are Not Yet Convinced Of The Lord Yourself!
3. Be A Credible Witness For The Lord!

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