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May 9th, 2010  
Morning Service

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## **The Greater Testimony of God**

This is a continuation of our series on what a testimony is. To get a fuller understanding of the message please download the May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 sermon and listen to it. As mentioned before, everyone has a testimony, even God. The idea of God having a testimony first comes as surprise. Isn't a testimony a narrative of how somebody came to desire Godly traits such as love, mercy, wisdom, and obedience in their lives?

Reflect back on the first epistle of John and think about how our Lord and Saviour is described. John calls Him The Light and tells us that darkness cannot overcome The Light. Now pair that notion with John telling us that God was in (as in already there) The Beginning.

We get a clear picture that God is, has, and forever will be everything He always has been since from before the beginning. This is a powerful testimony. This is a saving testimony. The testimonies of fallen men pail in comparison and merely tell how God's perfect testimony brought them up from depravity into salvation.

Read over 1 John 5:1-12 and listen to the sermon. Think how powerful the testimony of God is.

## **Notes**

### **The Elements of a testimony**

A testimony speaks to both intellect and morals.

### **Intellect**

#### God is a God of Knowledge.

He knows all things, nothing is outside His realm of understanding or noticing.

#### God is Wise.

His plans were from the beginning and are the best possible means to His perfectly designed end.

#### God is Truth.

He is the light and whatever God said is Truth. This truth is not for us to judge, it is the Truth that we should use to judge everything else.

#### God is Trustworthy

Not one of God's promises have, nor will ever be broken.

### **Morality**

#### God is unchangeable.

He is the only universal constant.

God is Love.

All His actions are done out of love.

God's love in us motivates us into action.

God is Good

God always insures our needs are met.

God is in Our Hearts

God will guide our hearts to holiness.

### **The End Result**

All testimonies have a purpose. The purpose of God's testimony is install in us eternal life.

**1 John 5:11** And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

## Scripture References

**1 John 5:1-13** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him. (2) By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. (3) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. (4) For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith. (5) Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? (6) 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. (7) For there are three that testify: (8) the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. (9) If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. (10) The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. (11) And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. (12) He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. (13) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

**Exodus 9:14** "For this time I will send all My plagues on you and your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is no one like Me in all the earth.

**Isaiah 46:9** "Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; *I am* God, and there is no one like Me,

**Psalms 139:1-24 For the choir director. A Psalm of David.** O LORD, You have searched me and known *me*. (2) You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. (3) You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways. (4) Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. (5) You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. (6) *Such* knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is *too* high, I cannot attain to it. (7) Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? (8) If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. (9) If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, (10) Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me. (11) If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, And the light around me will be night," (12) Even the darkness is not dark to You, And the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike *to You*. (13) For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. (14) I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. (15) My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, *And* skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; (16) Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained *for me*, When as yet there was not one of them. (17) How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! (18) If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You. (19) O that You would slay the wicked, O God; Depart from me, therefore, men of bloodshed. (20) For they speak against You wickedly, And Your enemies take *Your name* in vain. (21) Do I not hate those who hate You, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? (22) I hate them with the utmost hatred; They have become my enemies. (23) Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; (24) And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.

**1 John 3:20** in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things.

We are glad you have chosen to listen to this sermon and pray that it gives you strength, the want for obedience, and a desire to have God's abundant Grace mortify sin in your life. If you have any questions or comments please email [chuck\\_ezell@yahoo.com](mailto:chuck_ezell@yahoo.com).