

010 - Revelation 1:5 - 2021-06-23

A Three-Line Description of Who Jesus Christ Is

A longer form of “Prophet, Priest, and King”

1689.8.1

to be the mediator between God and man; the prophet, priest, and king...

1689.8.9

This office of mediator between God and man is proper only to Christ, who is the prophet, priest, and king...

1689.8.10

This number and order of offices is necessary...

THE FAITHFUL WITNESS - HIS PROPHETIC OFFICE

1689.8.10

...in respect of our ignorance, we stand in need of His prophetic office...

witness

We worked on the word “witness” two weeks ago
-essentially one who knows something
-so, then, one who can testify to what he knows

God bears witness to Himself by His acts of creation and providence

Acts 14:15-17 KJV And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein: 16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. 17 Nevertheless **he left not himself without witness**, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

The prophets God sent in days long before bore witness that God forgives the sins of those who believe

Acts 10:43 KJV To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

God had promised that in the days of the New Covenant, He would give the Holy One as a witness

Isaiah 55:3-5 KJV Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. 4 Behold, **I have given him for a witness to the people**, a leader and commander to the people. 5 Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ came into the world to bear witness to the truth.

John 18:37 KJV Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should **bear witness [G3140 verb *martureo*]** unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

In that statement, Jesus did not say what truth or truths He came to bear witness unto. But we could sample some of the things He said, to know what He was talking about.

John 3:11-18

-God loves the world

-in love, God has given His only-begotten Son for their salvation

-whoever believes in God's Son shall not perish, but have everlasting life

-God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved

-he that believes in the Son of God is not condemned

-he that believes not is condemned

JRY: he does not believe, having heard; he arrives at the end of his life unbelieving; the judgment day may yet be thousands of years off, but he is sure to be condemned

-Moses was a real man; the books of Moses are true history, not myths or stories

-the things that happened to Israel, as recorded in the bible, symbolize how God would save the world

-Jesus is both Son of Man and Son of God in one person

the faithful witness

Concept of faithfulness

- someone does what is right
- so people find him trustworthy
- so people then trust him to do what is right

Concept of faithfulness in a witness

- a person gives testimony of what he actually knows to be true
- when that is known, people find him trustworthy; they know him to be a faithful witness
- so people believe his testimony

It is a distressing part of life that much unfaithful witnessing goes on

- sinful men don't always even recognize or understand the concept of truth, let alone faithfully witnessing to the truth
- they have false notions of what constitutes truth, so they say things that they think of as true, but that aren't
- they understand what faithful witnessing is, but they don't fear God, so they witness to the truth only when it serves them, or when they fear what men will do to them if they lie
- they don't tell everything that needs to be told in order for the truth to be understood, whether intentionally or unintentionally
- they might not intent to testify falsely, but they testify to things they don't actually know; they don't restrict themselves to testimony of what they actually know
- other ways in which people are unfaithful witnesses, maybe even unintentionally

But joy to my soul that Jesus Christ is the faithful witness!

- as I believe in Him, I am justified, counted righteous, in the judgment of God, because my unfaithfulness as a witness is not counted against me; but His faithfulness as a witness is counted for me

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness

-because He knows!

John 8:14 KJV Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my **record is true: for I know** whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go.

-because He has told all that needs to be told

John 15:15 KJV Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for **all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known** unto you.

-because He is the very epitome of what is meant by, "Amen"

Revelation 3:14 KJV And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things **saith the Amen**, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

-in the Bible we learn that when people heard what they perceived to be true, they might reply by saying, "Amen"

Nehemiah 5:13 KJV Also I shook my lap, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the congregation said, Amen, and praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.

or even by saying it twice, "Amen, amen"

Nehemiah 8:5-6 KJV And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: 6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

-when Jesus Christ came, He would say "Amen" or even "Amen, amen" before He spoke!

-when He speaks, those who hear confidently can say, "Amen"

So,

-grace and peace to us was prayed for from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness

-grace and peace is conveyed to us as we read and hear and keep the words of the Bible, including this book of Revelation, because the words of the Bible are the words of Jesus Christ, the faithful witness