# 1 John Lesson 25

**1 John 5:6**

“We have the Witness of God”

Introduction: The Gnostics were infiltrating many of the churches and they were saying that Jesus was the natural-born son of Mary and Joseph. “While he was a substantial individual, he was nothing more and nothing less than the natural born son of a man-woman union.” The idea of Jesus being God incarnate was rejected by the Gnostics. They were teaching that at Jesus’ Baptism, the Divine Spirit came upon Him. So from the time of Jesus’ Baptism until the time of His crucifixion, He had the Divine Spirit upon, but prior to His Baptism and at the Crucifixion, He did not. The Divine Spirit departed from Him at the crucifixion. For the Gnostics the idea of Jesus being the God-Man was totally absurd. So, John is dealing with the attack on the Deity of Jesus Christ. This is the essence of who He is. If He is not God made manifest in the flesh, He is nothing! No different than any other person who lives and makes an impact on others.

Without the Deity of Jesus Christ, there is nothing!

So, John does not deal with the little details, He just declares who Jesus is!

The message of 1 John is JESUS is the SON of GOD!!

John teaches that Jesus is God and He is man!

Just like John, our focus should be on Jesus and His truth and His Word and there will be power over the world and the devil.

**I. The reference to Jesus coming by water is a reference to the time of His Baptism.**

 A. The FIRST Witness: The Word

1. When John was Baptizing and saw Jesus, he said. “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world.” John 1:29

 2. Jesus was the perfect Lamb that all the sacrificed lambs were pointing to.

 a. This is the Perfect Sacrifice.

 b. This is the Son of God.

 c. This is the Witness from Heaven.

 3. He was the Word incarnate, made flesh.

 B. The SECOND Witness: The Spirit

 1. Descended from Heaven like a dove.

 a. It was the Holy Spirit.

 b. He descended lighting upon Him as a dove would descend

 2. He became visible abnormal fashion that people could see.

 3. The point is that the Spirit of God said, “This is Him.”

 a. This is the witness and testimony from Heaven.

 b. This is who John said He was.

 C. The THIRD Witness: The Father

 1. A Voice from Heaven, “This is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

 2. This was done where witnesses could see with their eyes.

**II. The Reference to Jesus coming by blood is a reference to His Sacrifice on the Cross.**

 A. The FIRST Witness: The Blood

 1. He sat at the table and instituted the Lord’s Supper.

 2. He was referring to laying down His life. Mat. 26:26-28

 a. His blood was the blood that all other blood sacrifices under the law pointed to.

 b. They were a foreshadowing of the Blood of the sinless One. Heb. 10:1-4

 3. His Death and His Blood bear witness Him to be the Son of God.

 a. This is not a martyr or victim.

 b. He voluntarily laid down His life.

 B. The Second Witness: The Spirit

 1. The Spirit is Truth.

 a. His Baptism was a picture of what He would do.

 b. He would die, be buried, and He would rise again.

 b. His death, burial and His resurrection.

 2. He was raised by the power of the Spirit of God.

 a. He was raised by God, by the Spirit of God, and by His own power.

 b. This is the Trinity at work.

 1) They are not independent of the other.

 2) Jesus voluntarily gave Himself and was raised from the dead.

 3) The power of God through the work of the Holy Spirit & the Son submitting to the Father’s Will.

 3. Baptism is an act of obedience to Christ’s command in Matthew 28:19-20

 a. Baptism publicly identifies you with:

 1) Christ

 2) A local body of believers. Acts 2:41

 b. Christ was our example in all things beginning with Baptism.

**III. Without the work of the Holy Spirit of God, the story would stop at the Resurrection.**

 A. When the Spirit comes, He will reprove men of sin, righteousness and judgment. John 16:8

 1. The Spirit persuades men of their own sinfulness.

 2. The Spirit persuades men that Jesus is the only way to righteousness.

 3. The Spirit persuades men that there is a Hell from the judgment of God.

 B. If the Spirit of God did deal with us, we could not be saved.

 1. None of us went seeking God. Romans 3:11

2. Any inclination we have toward God is because of the Holy Spirit of God drawing us to Himself.

 a. This is what happened at the day of Pentecost. Acts 2:38-41

 b. It was not Peter, it was the Spirit of God empowering Peter.

 C. John is declaring that the Witness is evident.

 1. There are three that bear record in Heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

 2. And these three bear record on earth

 a. Through WATER at His baptism.

 b. Through BLOOD at the crucifixion.

b. Through the work of the HOLY SPIRIT who is still at work today witnessing to the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Conclusion: The Spirit bears witness to the truth of the Gospel. That is how a person gets saved.

v9 – We receive the witness of men every day… But, we have trouble believing the witness of God!

As God is greater than man, so the witness of God is greater than the witness of man. When we do not receive the witness of God, then we are saying that God cannot be believed, God cannot be trusted and God is a liar! Because a man does not believe the record that God gave of His Son! Believers who are saved….KEEP on WITNESSING! (the record is on your side) Those who have not accepted Christ nor believed the truth of the witness of Heaven…that Jesus is the Son of God who died for you and rose from the dead to give you salvation. You can call upon Christ to be your Savior today!