

Is God Trustworthy or Not?

1st John 5:6-13

A. There is _____ available that Jesus is the Christ. (5:6-8)

a. Jesus is identified as the one who came (it is implied that he came as the Christ).
Three witnesses are given to assure us that this really is the Christ who came:

- The water –
- The blood –
- The Spirit –

Notes on 1 John 5:7-8, known as *The Johannine Comma*:

NKJV

⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸ And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

NASB

⁷ For there are three that testify:

⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

- The words underlined in the verses above are not found in many known Greek manuscripts. The most popular opinion among New Testament scholars and translators today is that these underlined words are not part of the original which the Apostle John wrote by the direction of the Holy Spirit.
- If these words are original, then John would have been using the statement to affirm that God, in all three persons, has testified to the identity of Jesus as the Son of God.
- If these words were not original, then John's argument would have simply been more brief, but the flow of thought in the passage is the same.
- The words in question express a true statement about the Holy Trinity. However, the reality of the Trinity does not depend on these verses. If I wanted to demonstrate the Trinity in Scripture, I would use other passages, such as:
 - Jesus' statements in John which amount to His claim to deity, like John 8:58-59.
 - Accounts of Jesus Baptism, recorded in Matthew 3:13-17, which include God acting in all three persons of the Trinity.

B. God has given His _____: we have eternal life in His Son. (5:9-12)

- a. We should be able to believe when God _____. (5:9)

- b. To believe God is to accept the _____ as true. (5:10a)

- c. To not believe God is to reject God as a _____. (5:10b)

- d. The content of God's testimony is summarized: _____ is found in His Son. (5:11)

- e. Only by _____ the Son of God can a person receive this life. (5:12)

C. The result of believing God's testimony about Jesus is _____, with 100% certainty, that we have eternal life. (5:13)

It is not humble nor wise to doubt that you have eternal life. God knows that many things are hard for us, but knowing Him is not one of them. God has made knowing Him simple.

God has given us the assurance of His word: you become a child of God when you believe in Jesus Christ. Based on His own testimony, you can know that you have eternal life today.