

# The First Epistle of John

## (Week 51 – 1John 5:6-8 – part2)

**Text:** 1John 5:6-8 (ESV), *“This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.<sup>7</sup> For there are three that testify:<sup>8</sup> the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.”*

### I. Review of 1John 5:6a: The Testimony Concerning Jesus Christ

#### A. Authentic Christianity is objective:

1. John opened his first epistle stating his objective experience with Jesus (1John 1:1-3)
  - a. In 1John 5:6-9, John turns to God’s testimony of Jesus Christ
    - i. He came by water (Christ’s baptism – Mt. 3:16-17)
      1. A voice from Heaven spoke
      2. The Spirit descended upon Him like a dove
    - ii. He came by blood (Christ’s death – Mt. 27:51-54)
      1. Miraculous events accompanied His death
        - Darkness covered the earth; the temple curtain was torn from top to bottom; rocks split open; the dead rose from their tombs

### II. Continuation

#### A. 1John 5:6b, *“And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth”*

1. The Spirit gave testimony that Jesus was the anointed one (cf. Isa. 61:1; Lk. 4:18) by descending upon Him at His baptism (cf. Mt. 3:16-17).
  - a. Isaiah 61:1 say the Spirit would be upon the anointed One.
  - b. Jesus claimed to be the Anointed One spoken by Isaiah (Lk. 4:18)

#### B. 1John 5:7-8, *“For there are three that testify:<sup>8</sup> the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.”*

1. This passage is the re-emphasis of verse 6
  - a. The Spirit testified to the person of Jesus at His baptism and at His death by the accompanying signs that occurred in each event.

### III.

#### A brief interlude on the Godhead:

#### A. In KJV, verses 7-8 reads, *“For there are three that bear record [in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. (8) And there are three that bear witness in earth], the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.”*

1. The portion that begins with *“in heaven”* and ends with *“in earth”* is regarded as an interpolation (that is, an added text) because it does not exist in earlier Greek manuscripts.
2. For this reason, the ESV, NASB and NIV translations do not include this portion.
3. The “KJV-Only” school-of-thought attribute this removal as being a work of Satan to debunk the doctrine of the Trinity.
  - a. As mentioned before, early manuscripts did not include this section.
  - b. The doctrine of trinity can be proven with other Scriptures
    - i. Three doctrines concerning God:
      1. Doctrine of Trinity – God is one yet three distinct beings: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This doctrine acknowledges the deity of Christ and the personality of the Holy Spirit.

2. **Question: How do you prove the doctrine of trinity?**
- Genesis 1:26 -- God says “Let us make man in our image”
    - a. Note the plural pronouns?
    - b. Then verse 27 says God made man
    - c. Yet, John 1:3 says Jesus made all things, thus making Him “God” and “Creator.”
  - John 1:1 – The Word (Jesus) was with God and was God
    - a. In John 8:58, Jesus calls Himself “I Am”
    - b. God called Himself “I AM” at the burning bush (Exo.3:14).
    - c. Therefore, Jesus makes Himself out to be God.
  - In John 20:28, Thomas called Jesus “Lord” and “God.”
    - a. Jesus never accused Thomas of making an erroneous statement.
  - In Titus 2:14, Paul addresses Jesus as “God” and “Savior.”
  - In Acts 5:3-4, lying to the Holy Spirit is the same as lying to God.
3. **Doctrine of Arianism – This doctrine denies that Jesus is God; He is God’s first creation. It also denies the personality of the Holy Spirit (ex. Jehovah’s Witnesses).**
- **Question: Why is this doctrine biblically erroneous?**
    - a. If Jesus was “created” then worshipping and serving Him would be idolatry. Worshipping the creature is condemned in Romans 1:25
      - i. Jesus accepts worship (Mt. 28:9; John 9:37-38; Heb. 1:6)
    - b. Something inanimate cannot speak nor does it have a mind: The Holy Spirit speaks and has a mind (cf. Acts 8:29; Romans 8:27)
    - c. You cannot lie nor grieve something that is not living: It is possible to lie to the Holy Spirit; He can be grieved as well (cf. Acts 5:3; Ephesians 4:30)
4. **Doctrine of Modalism – Although this doctrine acknowledges the deity of Christ and the personality of the Holy Spirit, it teaches that God took the mode/form of “Father” in the OT, “Jesus” during the life of Christ and “Holy Spirit” during the Church age. Trinitarians believe that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit exist at the same time; Modalists do not (ex. United Pentecostal Church).**
- **Question: Why is this doctrine biblically erroneous?**
    - a. Jesus prayed to the Father in John 17:1
    - b. Jesus prayed that the Father would glory Him with the glory He once had with the Father before the world was (cf. John 17:5, 24)
      - i. This shows that Jesus pre-existed, with the Father, before the world came to be.