

Assurance of our salvation in Jesus Christ

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The five testimonies of Jesus—John 5:31-40

The evidence that Jesus set forth to prove that He is God Almighty.

Testimonies of Jesus (that He is who He says He is—God)	Testimonies of you (that you are a justified child of God)
His own testimony	Your own testimony
Testimony of John the Baptist	Testimony of another
Testimony of Jesus' works	Testimony of your own works
Testimony of the Father	Testimony of God the Father
The Scriptures	The Scriptures

❶ Your own testimony:

What do you say about yourself? If you were to die right now, would you be with Jesus? If you are sure that you are not born again (John 3:3), today is the day of salvation! Some of you might say, "I think I'm saved, but sometimes I doubt whether or not I really am." It is common for Christians to periodically have doubts. The book of I John was written in part to alleviate these doubts (I John 5:13). It is sometimes good that you have these doubts, after all, the majority of non-believers rarely think about their eternal destiny.

To have assurance that you are saved, however, your own testimony by itself is not valid (see John 5:31). Read on....

❷ The testimony of another:

The Jews enjoyed John the Baptist's testimony and listened to him. Jesus mentions John the Baptist's testimony that Jesus is The Lamb of God. He mentions this so that the Jews might be saved (5:34).

Is there someone that knows you, who is a well respected Christian, that would testify that you are a Christian? Does anyone even know that you claim to be a Christian? Do you hide your Christianity? Do you ever share Jesus with anyone?

If you are a secret or closet Christian you cannot claim this as a testimony to your salvation. This testimony requires that someone else knows that Jesus is in you, so that they could testify about you. Notice that this person's testimony concerning you could save others! (5:34)

③ Testimony of your own works:

Jesus' works, His miracles, His compassion, His love, His sharing the good news of the gospel, His light, His life was a "weightier" testimony to His Deity.

What do your works say about you? Is your light shining before others? Is it obvious that you are different? Is the only thing different between you and non-believers is that you go to church on Sundays? Has there ever been a time when you confessed your sins, repented, and committed your life to Jesus? Are you born again? If your works are not obvious to those around you, that you are different, that you are doing "the very work that the Father has given" you to do, then you cannot claim this testimony. If there has been a change in your life because of Jesus, then praise God because you can claim this as a testimony to your salvation! ("In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" James 2:17)

④ Testimony of God the Father:

When God the Father sent Jesus to the world, that was the Father's testimony to the world. This was confirmed verbally at Jesus' baptism (Matt 3:17). It was clear that Jesus was sent by God the Father.

Has the Father testified concerning you? "...the testimony of God [the Father], which He has given about His Son. Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart." I John 5:9-10

When Peter confessed Jesus as the Son of God, [**and God Himself!], Jesus said, "Blessed are you Simon...for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven." Matt 16:17

** Son of God = God

John 10:30-33; "I and the Father are one. Again the Jews picked up stones to stone Him, but Jesus said to them, 'I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?' "We are not stoning you for any of these," replied the Jews, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God."

John 5:18; "For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill Him; not only was He breaking the Sabbath, but He was even calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God."

Matt 14:33; "Then those who were in the boat worshipped Him (Jesus), saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

If you have come to believe in the Son of God and know that He is God, then this is from the Father, and the Father testifies concerning you, "that you may **know** that you have eternal life." I John 5:13

⑤ The Scriptures:

All the Scriptures testify that Jesus is the source of life. (John 5:39) “Anyone who does not listen to Him [Jesus] will be completely cut off from among his people.” Acts 3:23, Deut 18:19.

What do the Scriptures say concerning you?

We know that we have passed from death to life because:

We love our brothers.	I John 3:14
We obey His commands	I John 2:3-4
We do the will of God	I John 3:24
The world does not listen to us, but Christians do!	I John 4:6

We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us if:

We claim to be without sin	I John 1:8,10
We walk in the darkness	I John 1:6
We do not do what He commands	I John 2:4
We hate our brothers	I John 2:9,11; 3:10; 3:15
We love the world and its cravings and lust	I John 2:15
We deny that Jesus is the Messiah	I John 2:22
We [deliberately] keep on sinning	I John 3:6,9
We do not love	I John 3:14
We have material possessions but do not share with those in need	I John 3:17
We claim that Jesus did not come in the flesh	I John 4:3
The world listens to us	I John 4:5