

Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.

2John 1:8

Store In My Heart Job 2:10

But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

The time of Job is not given, but the story is a powerful testimony of trust in God, no matter when it happened.

Though sorely tested by Satan and those around him, and even bemoaning his own existence and situation, Job kept his trust that God knows what is best and cares for those who served Him faithfully. He knew not why he must suffer, but he never blamed God for his troubles. While his friends saw Job as the cause of his own situation, Job recognizes that sometimes bad things just happen to good individuals. Job patiently endures his trial while never failing in service to God. This book should cause us to ask ourselves how patient would I endure?



Don't Take My Word For It ...

George Hutto

The business of faith, of believing, is a matter of accepting the testimony of others. I could testify to you that Jesus is from Heaven and that He was raised from the grave to go back to Heaven, but what do I know? I was not there. I did not see Christ after the resurrection. I have not been to Heaven to see Jesus. However, I can tell you what others have said. You don't have to take my word for it.

Jesus Himself said so much. "If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true." (John 5:31) Jesus then pointed to the testimony of John the Baptist, who said that Jesus was "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29) At the baptism of Jesus there was the voice from heaven which said "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17) John was there, doing the baptizing. Can you believe John the Baptist? What motive would he have to mislead us?

Jesus also pointed to the miracles He did as a testimony to who He is. "But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me." (John 5:36) Those who reported His miracles were astounded; stilling the storm and the waves; giving sight to the blind; healing the paralyzed; even raising the dead. One would think that all people would become believers, but many do not. Having been born into a natural world, accepting the miracles is too much for them. The skeptics must have thought that Jesus was an evil magician. Some said He had a demon. "And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?" (John 7:31) Who could do more miracles than Jesus? (John 20:31-32; 21:25)

Jesus referred people to God the Father. "And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape." (John 5:37) Besides the Father's voice at the Lord's baptism and at other times, Jesus had in mind the testimony of the Father in scripture. "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." (John 5:39) Sure enough, Jesus is there, from Moses to Malachi, the scripture available to that generation, the Old Testament. Look for yourself. (You might start with Isaiah 53 & Acts 8.)

The Twelve were selected by Christ to testify to what they saw and heard during the ministry of Christ. When a replacement for Judas Iscariot was sought, the qualifications were listed like this: "Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection." (Acts 1:21-22) These Twelve were charged with preaching and bearing witness to the divinity of Jesus Christ.

Notice that their testimony as apostles was anchored in testifying to Christ from the baptism of John until the resurrection, which means that their testimony was to last into the following ages, until today and beyond. There are no other individuals after that three year ministry who could bear witness to His works. We are bound to look into their testimony as they were eyewitnesses. (**2Peter 1:16**) Also, their eyewitness testimony eliminates the possibility of apostolic succession. Who among men today have been witnesses of Christ's work?

Furthermore, consider the mark Jesus Christ has left on the world. Back in 1999 Time Magazine began their search for the Man of the Year, as usual, but also the Man of the Century, and even the Man of the Millennium.

"The single most powerful figure – not merely in these two millennia but in all human history – has been Jesus of Nazareth . . . a serious argument can be made that no one else's life has proved remotely as powerful and enduring as that of Jesus." (Time)

He was not born into royalty or wealth. He was not a military leader, or even a social reformer like Martin Luther King. We do not even have a statue or relief of Him — *"he has no form or comeliness."* (**Isaiah 53:2**). He was not granted any role or public position by the Jewish or Roman powers. Rather, He was ridiculed and scorned. What made Jesus so great? His character and great works are the source of His impact.

Listen to the apostle Peter:

"The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:) That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:" (**Acts 10:36-39**)

Now, when I say you don't have to take my word for it, the world is so rich of the message of the gospel I can make my job to simply refer people to the veracity of the gospel message. Preachers should not teach their own messages; they should preach the Word of God. (**2Timothy 4:1-4**)

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (**Romans 10:17**)

The Bible teaches that one should have faith in Jesus Christ — believe. Repentance is required, turning from sin. (**Acts 2:38**) Confession of that faith to others is required by the words of Christ. (**Luke 12:8-9**) Also, baptism is commanded, baptism for remission of sins. (**Acts 2:38**) A faithful life should turn others to the Word of God. (**Matthew 5:16**)

(This article is a good supplement to several recent sermons and our class in the Gospel of John. Any honest messenger of God desires to point listeners to Scripture, not themselves. Study with care, apply with diligence. DLH)

Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

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The
CHURCH OF CHRIST
MEETS HERE

 10:20 AM • Sunday Worship Service
5:00 PM • Sunday Night Bible Study
7:00 PM • Wednesday Bible Study

For Our Information

Vickie McNeas has been dealing with breathing issues.

Sue Soliday is doing physical therapy for her lymphedema.

Jim Soliday is still having difficulty with heart rhythm issues.

Dan & JoBeth Henderson will be in Henderson, TX Thurs-Fri.

The Ladies are planning a workday for Saturday August 31 to get the building ready for our Gospel Meeting.

Sunday Evening – **Psalm 19 & 51** Wednesday - **John 8:31**

Gospel Meeting with Jared Hagan - September 15-19

Announcements are available in the Foyer