



# Heavenly and Earthly Witnesses

**“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one” (I John 5:7).**

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“This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 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. 9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. 10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son” (I John 5:6-10).

Witnesses are Important as they can make a difference between losing or winning a case through the record they bear. Our text reveals the replication of heavenly pattern on earth in that there are three witnesses in each realm. In heaven they are (1) The Father, (2) The Word and (3) The Holy Ghost. A good example of the heavenly witnesses at work was at the baptism of Jesus Christ “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:16-17). This confirmed once and for all, without doubt that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Can we ignore such a witness and have right standing with God?

On earth the witnesses are (a) The Spirit, (b) The Water and (3) The Blood. Salvation takes place through the work of the Holy Spirit applying the “water” of the Word of God to a person’s life, transforming the human spirit into a new creation as the blood of Jesus washes and cleanses from all sins.

As the angel of death passed over all the hous-

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es marked by blood in Egypt (Exodus 12) so are believers protected by the blood of Jesus.

The agreement (or consistency of witness records) attests to the validity of the case. Lack of agreement in the witness evidence during the trial of Jesus made it impossible to convict Him of wrong (Mark 14:56,59). In heaven the 3 witnesses are one, reminding us of the Trinity. On earth the 3 witnesses agree in one. Talking of the Ministry of the Holy Spirit, in John 16:13,14, Jesus noted “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you”. Our assurance of salvation comes as **“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God”** (Romans 8:16). The early church was assured of a right decision that solved a critical problem because “... it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things” (Acts 15:28).

“And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night” (Revelation 12:10). In the spiritual warfare that rages on earth where Satan accuses believers day and night before God do you have agreement in the witness of the Spirit, the water and the blood that you are a child of God? Have you received and believed in the heavenly witness about Jesus and is that making a difference in your life? “... How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation...” (Hebrews 2:1-3)?