

Evidences: Establishing Testimony

**By Mark Mayberry
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Introduction

Both Old and New Covenants require multiple sources to establish testimony. Under the Mosaic Law, no one could be convicted of a crime without the testimony of two or three witnesses (Num. 35:30; Deut. 17:6-7; 19:15-21; cf. Heb. 10:28-29).

In the Gospel age, this principle applies to settling disputes among brethren (Matt. 18:15-17; 2 Cor. 13:1-4), and in bringing accusations against an elder (1 Tim. 5:19-20). It also relates to the issue of Christian evidences (John 5:30-32; 8:14-18). John served as a witness, as did the words of the Father, the works of Jesus, the words of prophecy, and later, the testimony of the inspired apostles.

John 5:30-32 ... 30 "I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 31 "If I alone testify about Myself, My testimony is not true. 32 "There is another who testifies of Me, and I know that the testimony which He gives about Me is true. (NASB95)

Multiple Witnesses

John the Baptist testifies that Jesus is the Christ (John 1:6-7, 15, 19-20, 26-27, 29-34; 5:33-35). The works of Jesus testify He is the Christ (Matt. 11:2-6; John 2:11, 23; 5:36; 10:24-25, 37-38; 14:10-11). God the Father testifies that Jesus is the Christ (John 5:37-38; 8:14-18; 1 John 5:9). Note God's utterances at the baptism of Jesus (Matt. 3:16-17; Mark 1:10-11; Luke 3:21-22), and again at His transfiguration (Matt. 17:1-6; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36). The Old Testament prophets testified regarding the Christ (Luke 24:25-27; Acts 13:26-27; 2 Pet. 1:19-21). Consider the Messianic prophecies preserved by Moses in the Pentateuch (Gen. 3:15; 12:3; 22:18; 49:8-10; Num. 24:17; Deut. 18:15-18; etc.). Consider also the witness of the inspired apostles, who testified that Jesus is the Christ (John 15:26-27; Acts 2:29-33; 3:14-15; 5:30-32; 10:38-43; 2 Pet. 1:16-18; 1 John 1:1-3; 4:14).

Conclusion

Credible evidence confirms that Jesus is the Christ. Do you accept the witness of John, the witness of Christ's works, the witness of the Father, the witness of prophecy, and also the witness of the apostles? Will you not respond to the Lord's invitation while there is time and opportunity?