

I. THE WITNESS OF HIMSELF (VS. 32)

A. He told them of many things

1. Vs. 17 - His Father was working and therefore He works (He is God)
 - a. He does nothing without complete agreement
 - b. He sees what the Father does
 - c. He does what the Father does
2. Vs. 20 - His Father will show even greater works than healing the lame
3. Vs. 21 - His Father will raise the dead / The Son will raise the dead
4. Vs. 22 - The Father committed all judgement into the hands of the Son
5. Vs. 23 - All men SHOULD honor the Son, as they honor the Father
6. Vs. 26 - The Son has life in Himself, just as the Father has life in Himself
7. Vs. 29 - The Son will judge those that have done good
8. Vs. 29 - The Son will judge those that have done evil
9. Vs. 30 – His judgement is just because He seeks not His own will

B. After all of that, He says – vs. 31

1. If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true
 - a. Jesus recognized the fact that He was on trial
 - b. Remember: He was confronted by the Jews (vs. 16)
 - i. Why?
 - ii. At first because He has healed on the Sabbath day
 - iii. But of COURSE, God is working on the Sabbath!
 - iv. The Sabbath day was made for man! Not GOD!
 - v. Then they realized what He had said (vs. 17 - 18)
 - c. They didn't just want to ask Him a few questions
 - d. They wanted to KILL Him (vs. 16)
 - e. So - He called Himself to the witness stand
2. He gave them His bona fides
 - a. He minced no words – He explained that He was the Son of God
 - b. It was a SHOCKING speech
 - i. Vs. 28 – Marvel not at this
 - ii. Can you just see their jaws hanging open?
 - iii. Did He just say what I think He said?
 - iv. That the dead would hear His voice?
 - v. If what He just said made you marvel, just wait until ALL the dead hear His voice!
 - vi. Not only that, but HE would be JUDGE!
3. What could they be thinking?
 - a. Could He be insane?
 - i. I'm sure that would be their next thought – He is mad!
 - ii. But then there's that lame man up and walking around

- b. Could He have a demon?
 - i. They would be tempted to think so
 - ii. But then there's the healing – can a demon do that?
 - iii. Could a devil seek God's will rather than his own? (vs. 30)
 - iv. Can a devil have LIFE in himself?
 - c. He's obviously a liar
 - i. No one has ever spoken like this
 - ii. Then perhaps they hit upon an explanation:
 - iii. He has only Himself as a witness!
 - iv. Yes, that's it!
- C. Vs. 31 – If I bear witness of myself
1. The Bible is very clear in the Old Testament about witnesses
 - a. Numbers 35:29 & 30 – “So these things shall be for a statute of judgment unto you throughout your generations in all your dwellings. (30) Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die.”
 - b. Deuteronomy 17:6 & 7 – “At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death. (7) The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So thou shalt put the evil away from among you.”
 - c. John 8:15-18 – “Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man. (16) And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. (17) It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true. (18) I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.”
 2. It was not those false witnesses that put Jesus on the Cross
 - a. The most illegal trial in the history of the world
 - b. Hired slanderers who couldn't even tell the same lying story
 - c. But they didn't convict Jesus
 - i. His own testimony condemned sin in the flesh
 - ii. The Father who sent the Son condemned sin in His Glory
 - iii. The Holy Spirit convicts the men's hearts of sin
 - iv. There were 2 or 3 witnesses to your sin and mine!
 3. But there was ANOTHER witness! (vs. 32)

II. THE WITNESS OF JOHN

- A. He was a Special Breed
 1. Matt. 11:11 - "Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist:

notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

- a. Easy to focus on the last part of that verse
 - b. But let's not overlook the first part
2. No one born has risen greater than John the Baptist
 3. Luke 16:16 - "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the Kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it."
- B. The Sanhedrin sent a special delegation (John 1:19-28)
1. He was a burning and shining light
 - a. Note – "a" light
 - b. Not "the" Light
 2. Willing to rejoice in that light for a season
 3. Find a parade and jump out in front – that's the religious mindset
 4. Even up to being baptized!
 5. Matthew 3:5-7 - "Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, (6) And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. (7) But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"
 6. They asked John the Baptist who he was
 - a. He confessed multiple times – I am NOT the Christ
 - b. I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness
 - c. Make straight the way of the Lord!
 7. Look at John 1:29 – BEHOLD!
 8. They heard the TESTIMONY of John the Baptist
 - a. But they refused to RECEIVE it
 - b. Refused to hear about any Christ outside of their own imagination
 - c. And yet he bare witness – not unto himself (vs. 33)
 - d. John bare witness unto the TRUTH
- C. John the Baptist likely dead
1. By now already executed or at the very least in prison
 2. Jesus gave him a great compliment
 - a. A shining and burning light!
 - b. Would that Jesus could say that about us!
- D. But Jesus didn't need the testimony of man
1. Even one so great as John the Baptist! (vs. 34)
 2. He had another witness!

III. THE OTHER WITNESS (VS. 32)

- A. This witness is true
1. Absolute truth – John 14:6 – "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

2. Psalm 119:160 – “Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”
 3. Jesus is telling of the Truth from this Other Witness
 - a. And Jesus cannot lie
 - b. Titus 1:2 – “In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;”
- B. Let’s take a look at this passage
1. These words are present tense
 - a. “...that beareth...” Right now this witness is in the act of bearing
 - b. “...he witnesseth...” This witness is currently testifying
 2. Look at John witness (vs. 33)
 - a. He BARE (past tense) witness unto the truth
 - b. Vs. 35 – John “was” a burning and a shining light
- C. This witness is can only be the Father
1. Not a man, Jesus said he did not need man’s testimony
 2. Must be God – He was in agreement with the works Jesus worked!
 3. I John 5:9 – READ

IV. THE WITNESS OF GOD

- A. The witness of God is greater
1. John 6:68 – “Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.”
 2. Luke 24:32 – “And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?”
 3. Romans 3:4 – “God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.”
- B. Jesus is the Lamb of God
1. That taketh away the SIN of the world
 2. Not because I say it
 3. Not because John the Baptist says it
 4. Because GOD says it!
- C. Turn to Him today!