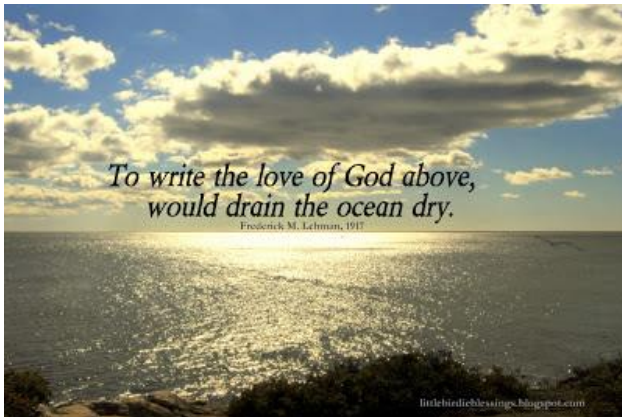


Assurance and the Witnesses of 1 John 5 Precis

Hymns: Here is Love, Before the Throne of God Above, Hold the Fort The Love of God¹



*Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above,
Would drain the ocean dry.
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretched from sky to sky.*

One day, during short intervals of inattention to our work, we picked up a scrap of paper and, seated upon an empty lemon box pushed against the wall, with a stub pencil, added the (first) two stanzas and chorus of the song... Since the lines (3rd stanza from the Jewish poem) had been found [pencilled] on the wall of a patient's room in an insane asylum after he had been carried to his grave, the general opinion was that this inmate had written the epic in moments of sanity.

- Frederick M. Lehman, History of the Song, *The Love of God*, 1948².

“For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God...” 2 Corinthians 5:13:

1st Hymn: Here is Love³

*Here is love, vast as the ocean,
Lovingkindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten,
Throughout Heav'n's eternal days.
On the mount of crucifixion,
Fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
Poured incessant from above,
And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.*

*So here is love, vast as the ocean,
Lovingkindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten,
Throughout Heav'n's eternal days.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
Poured incessant from above,
And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.*

“I will give...my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world” John 6:51

“...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee” Hebrews 13:5.

Resist the Devil James 4:7



“So when the devil throws your sins in your face and declares that you deserve death and hell, tell him this: “I admit that I deserve death and hell, what of it? For I know One who suffered and made satisfaction on my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, Son of God, and where He is there I shall be also!” — Martin Luther⁴

2nd Hymn Before the Throne of God Above⁵

*Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart
When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Saviour died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me*

*Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God*

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”

James 4:7.

It's worth noting that The Cyber Hymnal⁶ reports over 15,700 Christian hymns and Gospel songs uploaded on its site. They are all dedicated to one Individual ***“Jesus the author and finisher of our faith”*** Hebrews 12:2.

One could ask how many equivalent pieces of music have been dedicated to founders of other faiths?

Answers on a postage stamp, please.

3rd Hymn: Hold the Fort⁷

Just before [William Tecumseh] Sherman began his famous march to the sea in 1864, and while his army lay camped in the neighborhood of Atlanta [Georgia] on the 5th of October, the army of Hood, in a carefully prepared movement, passed the right flank of Sherman's army, gained his rear, and commenced the destruction of the railroad leading north, burning block-houses and capturing the small garrisons along the line.

Sherman's army was put in rapid motion pursuing Hood, to save the supplies and larger posts, the principal one of which was located at Altoona Pass. General Corse, of Illinois, was stationed there with about fifteen hundred men, Colonel Tourtelotte being second in command.

A million and a half rations were stored here, and it was highly important that the earthworks commanding the pass and protecting the supplies be held. Six thousand men under command of General French were detailed by Hood to take the position.

The works were completely surrounded and summoned to surrender. Corse refused and a sharp fight commenced. The defenders were slowly driven into a small fort on the crest of the hill. Many had fallen, and the result seemed to render a prolongation of the fight hopeless.

At this moment an officer caught sight of a white signal flag far away across the valley, twenty miles distant, upon the top of

Kenesaw Mountain. The signal was answered, and soon the message was waved across from mountain to mountain:

"Hold the fort; I am coming. W. T. Sherman."

Cheers went up; every man was nerved to a full appreciation of the position; and under a murderous fire, which killed or wounded more than half the men in the fort—Corse himself being shot three times through the head, and Tourtelotte taking command, though himself badly wounded—they held the fort for three hours until the advance guard of Sherman's army came up. French was obliged to retreat.

[Sankey](#), pp. 150–51

**Ho, my comrades! see the signal waving in the sky!
Reinforcements now appearing, victory is nigh.**

Refrain

*"Hold the fort, for I am coming," Jesus signals still;
Wave the answer back to Heaven, "By Thy grace we will"*

**See the mighty host advancing, Satan leading on;
Mighty ones around us falling, courage almost gone!**

Refrain

**See the glorious banner waving! Hear the trumpet blow!
In our leader's name we triumph over ev'ry foe.**

Refrain

**Fierce and long the battle rages, but our help is near;
Onward comes our great commander, cheer, my comrades, cheer!**

Refrain

***"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ"***

1 Corinthians 15:57.



Philip P. Bliss
1870

Assurance and The Soldier's Leap⁸

Donald McBane was a Williamite Government soldier fleeing from the Jacobites who'd routed the Government Army at the battle of Killiecrankie near Pitlochry on 27 July 1689. McBane leapt 18 feet down and across the gorge through which ran the River Garry and escaped his pursuers. What's that got to do with assurance?

The answer is simple. The Jacobite clansmen were running for their prey, or thought they were.

Donald McBane was running for his life and he knew it. That's assurance.

Today's saints are beset by the world, Romans 12:2, the flesh, Romans 7:18, the devil, 2 Corinthians 2:11 but today's saints are promised assurance of deliverance as Paul testifies in 2 Timothy 4:18. ***“And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”*** The question then arises for today's saints:

Once Saved Always Saved?

Yes, despite lapses like that of ***“Demas...having loved this present world”*** 2 Timothy 4:10. A bad life is not a basis for ***“good doctrine”*** 1 Timothy 4:6. That basis is ***“the words of faith”*** 1 Timothy 4:6.

And salvation is ***“the simplicity that is in Christ”*** 2 Corinthians 11:3.

As Peter illustrates:

“...and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him...” Matthew 14:30-31.

As John declares:

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name” John 1:12 noting John 6:21 ***“Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went.”***

As Paul confirms:

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” Romans 10:13 and that's ***“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye”*** 1 Corinthians 15:52. ***“the salvation which is in Christ Jesus”*** 2 Timothy 2:10 effectively ***“when...came Jesus and stood in the midst”*** John 20:19 is as instant as ***“incorruption...at the last trump”*** 1 Corinthians 15:42, 50, 52, 53, 54.



Donald McBane leaping across the River Garry to escape pursuing highlanders | Image: Jenny Proudfoot

Assurance and the Witnesses of 1 John 5 Precis

1 John 5:6-13

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.

For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

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.

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.

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Why Study Assurance?

- Assurance is scriptural. Solomon wrote Proverbs to underline assurance.

“Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge, That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth...?” Proverbs 22:20-21.

The Christian’s assurance of salvation has *“the certainty of the words of truth.”* That salvation is called *“eternal life”* in 1 John 5:6-13. The Christian can be sure that he is going to Heaven to live forever, either at death or at the Lord’s Return, as Paul states plainly in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

“The dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

That is eternal life and the promise of being *“ever...with the Lord”* is a great comfort as Paul says in 1 Thessalonians 4:18, so assurance or certainty of salvation, or *“eternal life,”* should always be emphasized amongst the Lord’s people.

- Take Nothing For Granted. Over 40 years ago, about 130 Christian believers convened for a Navigator summer conference in Christchurch, New Zealand. The group was selected on the basis of their commitment to the Navigator ministry and attendance was by special invitation. The Navigators always put particular emphasis on assurance of salvation and the first evening message at the conference specifically addressed that topic. After the meeting, no fewer than 17 of the 130 specially-

selected attendees sought counsel on assurance of salvation. Therefore, take nothing for granted about assurance, if you're counselling other believers.

- *A Christian Distinctive.* Only Christian believers can have assurance of salvation. Assurance should therefore always be emphasized so that the Lord's people can keep separate from other religions. The Christian can have no ecumenical dialogue or multi-faith dialogue because other religions don't teach assurance:

No Muslim has assurance of salvation. A Muslim may follow the Five Pillars of Islam⁹ but his works in this life still have to be weighed up after death to decide his fate in the next life. Sura 101:6-11¹⁰ from the Qur'an, Yusuf Ali's translation, state:

"Then, he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) heavy, Will be in a life of good pleasure and satisfaction. But he whose balance (of good deeds) will be (found) light, - Will have his home in a (bottomless) Pit...(It is) a Fire Blazing fiercely!"

Islam is clearly a works-based religion that has no assurance of salvation. For information, Mohammed said¹¹ in the *Hadith* that *"I was shown the Hell fire. The majority of its dwellers were women."*

No Catholic has assurance or certainty of salvation.

The Canons of the Council of Trent, Session VI, on Justification, January 13th 1547¹² make the Catholic position clear with respect to salvation:

Canon IX: If any one saith, that by faith alone the impious is justified; in such wise as to mean, that nothing else is required to co-operate in order to obtaining the grace of Justification...let him be anathema.

Those Canons of the Council of Trent are still in force. Do you believe that you are justified by faith alone in Jesus Christ? If so, Rome says that you are accursed.

In addition, outside of the Church Age, Old Testament saints were under a faith and works system for salvation, Psalm 15. Tribulation saints during Daniel's 70th Week, Daniel 9:24-27, will be under a faith and works system for salvation, Revelation 12:17, 14:12. Neither group had or will have assurance of salvation like the Christian in the Church Age, Romans 8:9. To understand that you must obey 2 Timothy 2:15 ***"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"*** or you'll never get the Bible right.

So in sum, three reasons for emphasising assurance of salvation are:

- *It is scriptural.*
- *Take nothing for granted.*
- *Avoid false religions.*

The Apostle John expands on this subject of assurance of salvation or ***"eternal life"*** in 1 John 5:6-13. He does so by first providing witnesses to the Person of the Saviour. Those witnesses are essential because if a particular person is to be trusted for salvation, as much should be known about the nature of that person as possible.

That person needs to be identified for sure as “...indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world...that Christ, the Son of the living God” John 4:42, 6:69.

John's Witnesses to the Person of the Saviour

An Impeccable Witness

1 John 5:6

“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.”

1 John 5:6 witnesses to the Person of the Saviour through “*the Spirit that beareth witness*” because that Spirit is “*the Spirit of truth*” John 16:13 and “*is truth.*”

“*The Spirit*” is a wholly trustworthy witness, first to the humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ.

“*The Spirit*” reveals that Jesus Christ was “*born of water*” John 3:5, like anyone else and “*the Spirit*” says that the Lord came “*by water and blood,*” like anyone else.

The Lord's blood is of course special.

The blood of Jesus Christ is God's blood because as Paul states in Acts 20:28 “*God...hath purchased with his own blood...the church of God.”*

This purchase is called “*redemption*” as Paul says of the Lord in Colossians 1:14.

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.”

God is of course “*the eternal God*” and “*the everlasting God*” Deuteronomy 33:27, Isaiah 40:28. Therefore, His blood is eternal.

It follows that God's blood still avails for redemption, forgiveness and cleansing from sin, as 1 John 1:7 reveals in the statement “*the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin*” present tense.

1 John 5:6 therefore introduces an impeccable witness to the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Person of “*the Spirit of truth.*”

That Witness also bears testimony to the ever-effectual, soul-cleansing blood of the God-man Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ, Who of necessity therefore “*came by water and blood*” as the God-man. Let's look at some further witnesses to the Person of the Saviour.

Further Witnesses

1 John 5:7, 8

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

“And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit*, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.” *Cambridge Cameo Edition.

[Note that the 24 words underlined are denied or disputed as scripture by the modern versions. See the *Appendix* for the witnesses to these 24 words as scripture.]

1 John 5:7, 8 introduce other impeccable witnesses to the Person of the Saviour, as both God and man. Multiple witnesses are basic for any testimony of scripture as Paul states in 2 Corinthians 13:1.

“In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.”

Looking first at 1 John 5:8, 1 John 5:8 shows that ***“the water, and the blood”*** are *themselves* witnesses to the Person of the Saviour on earth. As discussed, He was ***“born of water”*** John 3:5 and born with His Father’s blood, God’s blood, Acts 20:28.

What of ***“the spirit,”*** small *s*, in 1 John 5:8? (Some AV1611 Editions have ***“the Spirit”*** capital *S* but ***“Spirit”*** and ***“spirit”*** are the same for the Lord Jesus Christ.)

The Lord Jesus Christ as a man had His own spirit. At the Lord’s death, He ***“gave up the ghost”*** with the words ***“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit”*** Luke 23:46.

At His death, the Lord, as in any human death, underwent Ecclesiastes 12:7 ***“the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”***

At His resurrection, Matthew 28:6-10, His spirit ***“came again,”*** as in the case of the girl the Lord brought back to life in Luke 8:55, so in sum, ***“the spirit”*** in 1 John 5:8 bears witness to the Lord as truly man, along with ***“the water, and the blood.”***

1 John 5:8 therefore gives three witnesses to the Person of the Saviour as truly man, with respect to Him ***“in earth,”*** namely ***“the spirit, and the water, and the blood.”***

1 John 5:7 introduces the three Persons of the Godhead ***“the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost”*** as individual witnesses to the Person of the Saviour. ***“The Holy Ghost,”*** the Third Person of the Godhead, is of course ***“the Spirit that beareth witness”*** 1 John 5:6 capital *S*, discussed earlier.

Note first that the Father and the Holy Ghost each bore witness from heaven to the Person of the Saviour as ***“God...manifest in the flesh”*** 1 Timothy 3:16 at Jesus’ baptism as Luke 3:21-22 show.

“Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.”

Luke 3:21-22 provide the witness of the First and Third Persons of the Godhead to the Lord Jesus Christ as ***“God...manifest in the flesh”*** 1 Timothy 3:16. The dove shape of ***“the Holy Ghost”*** signifies the complete unity between the Second and Third Persons of the Godhead. This scene does not happen anywhere else in scripture.

In addition, it is mind-stretching but ***“the Word”*** the Second Person of the Godhead actually bears witness to the Person of the Saviour as ***“God...manifest in the flesh”*** 1 Timothy 3:16 as John declares in John 1:14.

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”

John is referring to the Mount of Transfiguration, Matthew 17:1, 2, Luke 9:26-36. The Father testified to *“my beloved Son”* Luke 9:35 but the Lord referred to *“his own glory”* Luke 9:26 and *“Peter and John and James...saw his glory”* Luke 9:28, 32.

“His glory” Luke 9:32, John 1:14 could only come from *“the Son of man which is in heaven”* John 3:13 as the Second Person of the Godhead bearing witness to the Person of the Saviour, then on earth as *“God...manifest in the flesh”* 1 Timothy 3:16.

What this means is that *“the Word,”* the Second Person of the Godhead, the Lord Jesus Christ, can be in two places at once and divide Himself without dying. Ordinary men can't. Only the God-man can. In so doing, the Second Person of the Godhead bears witness to the Person of the Saviour on earth as *“God...manifest in the flesh.”*

That is mind stretching but true. Who said the Bible isn't intellectual?

1 John 5:7 therefore gives three witnesses to the Person of the Saviour, as *“God...manifest in the flesh”* 1 Timothy 3:16, *“the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.”*

Remember that 1 John 5:8 gives three witnesses to the Person of the Saviour, with respect to His humanity, *“in earth.”*

So 1 John 5:6-8 provide six witnesses to the Person of the Saviour as the God-man, *“the captain of...salvation”* and *“the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him”* Hebrews 2:10, 5:9 *“and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith”* Romans 16:26. In short *“repent ye, and believe the gospel”* Mark 1:19.

1 John 5:9, 10

John emphasises the pre-eminence of God's witness to the Person of the Saviour in 1 John 5:9. It is greater than *“the witness of men”* yet man's witness about the Lord Jesus Christ is received, as 1 John 5:9 indicates. Here are some examples.

- John the Baptist, John 1:34. *“And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.”*
- Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, John 1:49, 21:2. *“Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.”*
- The Roman Centurion, Matthew 27:54. *“Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.”*

The remainder of 1 John 5:9 states *“for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son”* and it leads into 1 John 5:10. 1 John 5:10 states *“He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself.”*

That is the witness *in* the man, as illustrated by Peter.

Matthew 16:15-17 state *“He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.”*

God therefore bore witness to Peter *inwardly* of the Lord Jesus Christ, that ***“This is the true God, and eternal life”*** 1 John 5:20.

In addition to ***“the witness of men”*** and ***“He that...hath the witness in himself,”*** the witness in men, 1 John 5:9, 10 reveal a third witness to the Person of the Saviour. This is ***“The record that God gave of his Son.”*** That is a God-given witness but a record written by men. For example, see Isaiah 8:1-2:

“Moreover the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man’s pen concerning Mahershalalhashbaz. And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah.”

Observe too that in 1 John 5:13, John reinforces the *written* ***“record.”***

“These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life.”

1 John 5:9, 10 therefore reveal three more witnesses to the Person of the Saviour.

- ***“The witness of men”***
- The witness in men, ***“He that...hath the witness in himself”***
- The witness by men, ***“the record that God gave of his Son.”***

So 1 John 5:6-10 provide nine witnesses to the Person of the Saviour in three sets of three. We should now note the false witnesses *against* the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Devil has sought to oppose ***“so great a cloud of witnesses”*** Hebrews 12:1 to the Person of the Saviour that 1 John 5:6-10 provide. He has brought forth ***“many false witnesses”*** Matthew 26:60 to deny the Person of the Saviour. Let’s note the most prominent ones in order to ***“Watch ye, stand fast in the faith”*** 1 Corinthians 16:13.

False Witnesses

John is scathing about ***“he that believeth not God”*** with respect to the Person of the Saviour. John accuses them of making ***“a liar”*** out of God.

Such a person is himself a liar because ***“God...cannot lie”*** Titus 1:2. These are the foremost liars. They are very prominent today:

- Muslims are liars. They deny God’s Son and the existence of the Godhead in at least 28¹³ passages in the Qur’an. For example, Sura 3:59, Yusuf Ali’s translation: ***“The similitude of Jesus before Allah is as that of Adam; He created him from dust, then said to him: “Be.” And he was.”***
Yusuf Ali in his notes insists that Sura 3:59 proves that Jesus was only a man and not God or the Son of God. Islam is therefore blasphemous.
- Evolutionists are liars. They deny God as Creator and therefore all Persons of the Godhead, referred to as ***“us”*** in Genesis 1:26. Charles Darwin was such a denier. Vance Ferrell¹⁴ states *It is not commonly known that Charles Darwin, while a naturalist aboard the Beagle, was initiated into witchcraft in South America by nationals. During horseback travels into the interior, he took part in their ceremonies*

and, as a result, something happened to him. Upon his return to England...he spent the rest of his life working on theories to destroy faith in the Creator.

Evolution is of course **“science falsely so called”** 1 Timothy 6:20 and an avowed enemy of **“the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation”** Ephesians 1:13.

- **Marxists are liars.** Karl Marx followed Darwin, as Vance Ferrell explains. *Karl Marx (1818-1883) is closely linked with Darwinism. That which Darwin did to biology, Marx with the help of others did to society. All the worst political philosophies of the 20th century emerged from the dark cave of Darwinism. Marx was thrilled when he read Origin of the Species; and he immediately wrote Darwin and asked to dedicate his own major work, Das Kapital, to him. Darwin, in his reply, thanked him but said it would be best not to do so.*

That’s the cautious Englishman versus the aggressive German. It should be noted when dealing with an evolutionist that the full title of *The Origin of Species* includes the phrase¹⁵ *Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*.

Researcher Ian Taylor¹⁶ notes Marx’s antagonism towards Christian belief.

The founding father of communism, Karl Marx, recognized that “religion is the opium of the people” (Marx 1843). He further recognized that religious beliefs stood in the way of the vision for a new world order, while heading that list of religions was Bible-based Christianity.

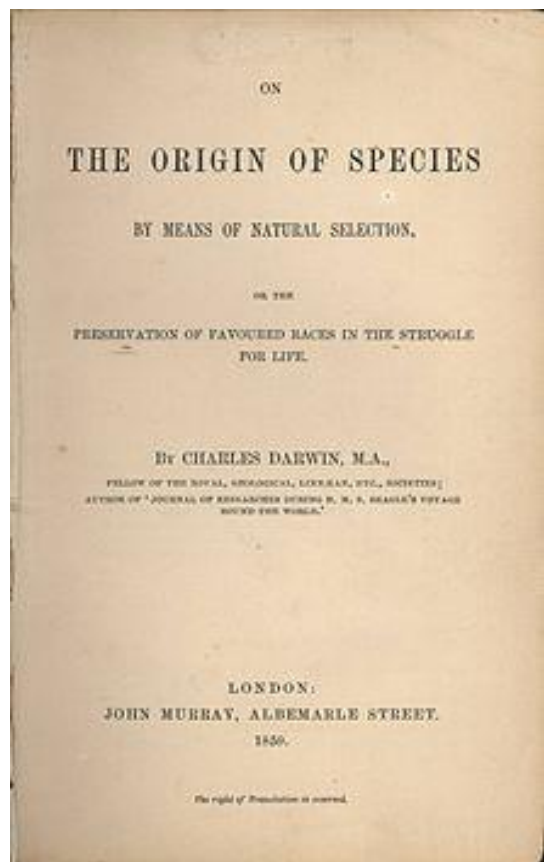
Are you a Bible-based Christian? The New World Order says you’re in the way.

Marxists therefore follow the same lie as Darwin. They deny God as Creator and therefore all Persons of the Godhead.

Observe too that Marxism is actually the offspring of another great enemy of **“the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation”** Ephesians 1:13, **“philosophy”** or love of human wisdom or **“vain deceit”** as Paul warns in Colossians 2:8.

“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”

John Blanchard¹⁷ describes how philosophy shaped Marx’s political ideas. *Marx...drew on many [philosophical] thinkers in the distant and immediate past in formulating his Communistic system of society...Marx was particularly attracted to Feuerbach’s emphasis on man...and on the fact that he made ‘the social relationship of ‘man to man’ the basic principle of his theory.*



Ludwig Feuerbach was a German philosopher who believed that nothing existed other than man and nature or the material world. Feuerbach has many professing disciples today. Marx based his political ‘philosophy’ on this false belief.

Concerning that pack of liars, it is significant that the Vatican created Islam¹⁸. While such a disclosure may seem bizarre, it accords with today’s Catholic-Muslim joint worship of Mary as explained by Jim Tetlow¹⁹ et al in their book *Queen of All*. That disclosure also conforms to the verdict of scripture that Rome is indeed **“MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH”** Revelation 17:5. Islam²⁰ is one of Rome’s **“ABOMINATIONS.”**

Darwin, Marx and Rome are also linked. Ian Taylor shows how Rome cunningly inserts God into evolution in order to make this falsehood ‘acceptable’ to Christians.

The Marxist element in the Jesuit teaching order...is the vehicle primarily responsible for bringing theistic evolution to today’s generation...Direct persecution has...proven ineffective, serving only to reinforce the faith of the survivors; the alternative strategy adopted today is the deliberate erosion of belief from within the Christian organizations. Evolution has now the respectability of science, and for the Catholic Christian particularly, [the Jesuits’] theistic evolution appears as the perfect compromise...*

*Theistic evolution maintains that *God is responsible for directing evolution of one species into another in a series of steps*²¹. It is but a short step from accepting theistic evolution to accepting evolution as such, without God.

On the tie-up between Rome, Marx, Darwin and Islam, the words of researcher P. D. Stuart²² should be noted. Stuart’s summary says it all about Rome, Marx, Darwin and Islam.

When one thinks of the endless Jesuit-staged conspiracies, one is reminded of what Leonardo Donato, [Chief Magistrate] of Venice, 1606-1612, told the Pope’s Nuncio after having imprisoned certain seditious priests in his city. “Go back to Rome and tell your Master [Pope Paul V] that there is never a deed of shame done in any part of the Republic but some worthless priest is at the bottom of it.”

For information:

- Cardinal Ximenez in the early 16th century and the Jesuits who captured the universities and colleges inserted ‘originals-onlyism’ and the corrupt Catholic text that became the modern versions into the Protestant churches to displace the AV1611.

That subversion was carried on in the latter part of the 19th century by Hodge and Warfield of Princeton Theological Seminary and Westcott and Hort of Cambridge University. That subversion has largely been successful^{23, 24}.

- The Jesuits created the first Communist communes as would be recognized today in the 17th and 18th centuries amongst the docile Indians of Paraguay. The Jesuits called those communes Reductions. Marx no doubt made use of that historical example to support his Communist theory. Marx was tutored by Jesuits in the British Museum²⁵.

- Teilhard de Chardin, a French Jesuit, was closely associated with the Piltdown Man hoax in the early part of the 20th century that helped bolster up evolution for many years.

It should be remembered that, bearing in mind the full title of *The Origin of Species*, Dr Hort, champion of the modern versions and lifelong antagonist of the AV1611, was a great admirer of Darwin. Hort once said “*I care more for England and for Europe than for America, how much more than for all the [n-word people] in the world!*” Hort actually used the n-word, in writing.^{26, 27}

Among Rome’s worst deeds of shame is her perception of the Lord Jesus Christ, as The Canons of the Council of Trent, Session XIII, state on The Most Holy Sacrament Of The Eucharist, October 11th 1551²⁸.

Canon I: If any one denieth, that, in the sacrament of the most holy Eucharist, are contained truly, really, and substantially, the body and blood together with the soul and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ, and consequently the whole Christ; but saith that He is only therein as in a sign, or in figure, or virtue; let him be anathema.

Note again that those Canons are still in force.

Do you believe that the elements *represent* the Body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ but are not *literally* His Body and blood? If so, Rome says that you are cursed.

This is what Rome *really* believes about the Lord in Communion. Joseph Zacchello²⁹ was a Catholic priest before he got saved. He states *I had and still have even as a former priest, according to the Roman teaching, the power to change the bread and wine into the real body and soul of Christ, into the very same Christ who lived on this earth nineteen hundred years ago and died upon a cross at Calvary...*

I, as a priest, was considered another God, the creator of my Creator, and after I had created Christ I had to kill Him in order to repeat for five dollars the sacrifice of the cross. Oh monstrous murderous power. How could I pretend to...kill for money that Christ who being raised from the dead dieth no more, death hath no more dominion over Him.

Those foremost false witnesses under which all the others may be grouped are therefore the Devil’s triad against the Person of the Saviour:

- **“Vain...man’s religion”** James 1:26-27, Catholicism, Islam
- **“Science falsely so called”** 1 Timothy 6:20, Evolution
- **“Philosophy”** Colossians 2:8 and its **“evil fruit”** Matthew 7:17, Marxism.

But that triad is powerless in the face of the witnesses of 1 John 5:6-10.

Three Threefold Cords of Witnesses

As shown, 1 John 5:6-10 give a total of nine witnesses to the Person of the Saviour as ***“God...manifest in the flesh,”*** in three sets of three or three triads of witnesses.

- *The Heavenly Triad “the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one”* 1 John 5:7
- *The earthly triad “the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one”* 1 John 5:6, 8
- *The testimonial triad “The witness of men,” “He that...hath the witness in himself” the witness in men, “The record that God gave of his Son” a record by men, 1 John 5:9, 10.*

Those triads are a ***“threefold cord”*** of witnesses, as in Ecclesiastes 4:12.

“And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

So John’s *threefold* triads of witnesses *for* the Lord Jesus Christ as the God-man *decisively* defeat the Devil’s *single* triad of witnesses *against* the Lord Jesus Christ.

John has therefore established an irrefutable testimony to the Person of the Saviour, the God-man Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is absolutely essential for each and every individual because only ***“the Lord God Almighty”*** Revelation 21:22 can save the individual.

“I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour” Isaiah 43:11.

The Apostle now focuses on the *assurance* of the salvation that the Lord the Saviour imparts to the believer.

Assurance of Salvation in the Believer

1 John 5:11, 12, 13

1 John 5:11, 12, 13 refer twice to the term ***“eternal life”*** that describes salvation and make a vital contribution to the threefold witness about ***“eternal life”*** in scripture.

- ***“Eternal life”*** is God’s gift to every Christian.
“God hath given to us eternal life” 1 John 5:11.
- ***“Eternal life”*** is God’s relationship with every Christian.
“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent” John 17:3.

As the Giver of eternal life, God is eternal and Jesus Christ is ***“alive for evermore”*** Revelation 1:18. Anyone who knows God is ***“alive for evermore.”***

- ***“Eternal life”*** is God’s life in every Christian, namely the Lord Jesus Christ. He is ***“the life of God”*** Ephesians 4:18.
“This life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life” 1 John 5:11-12.

“Eternal life” is therefore a gift from God, a relationship with God and the life of God Himself. In sum ***“eternal life”*** is salvation as the Lord Jesus Christ said in John 5:24.

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”

Note the threefold condition of salvation, past, present and future:

1. Past deliverance ***“is passed from death unto life”***
2. Present state ***“hath everlasting life”***
3. Future promise ***“shall not come into condemnation.”***

Given the permanence of his ***“eternal life”*** or ***“everlasting life”*** that is ***“the life of God”*** the Christian therefore has complete assurance or certainty of salvation.

Conclusions

- The Christian can have assurance of salvation because he has ***“eternal life”*** which by definition he can never lose.
- Three triads of witnesses, Heavenly, earthly, testimonial, *for* the Saviour defeat the Devil’s three false witnesses *against* the Saviour, religion, science and philosophy.
- The believer receives ***“eternal life”*** when by faith he receives the Lord Jesus Christ because he then ***“hath the Son”*** Who Himself is ***“eternal life.”*** Salvation could not be surer. That is real assurance and a great comfort.

I close with this testimony from ***“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus”*** 2 Timothy 1:1, key because the Lord Jesus Christ is not going to self-harm, ever:

“For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones” Ephesians 5:30.

Alan O’Reilly

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Appendix - Witnesses for 1 John 5:7, 8

Some of the words of 1 John 5:7, 8 are disputed or denied in the modern versions, NASV, NIV, NKJV etc. These words are as follows, 24 distinct words in all.

1 John 5:7

“in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one”

1 John 5:8

“And there are three that bear witness in earth”

Witnesses to the authenticity of the above words are as follows. Note that they do not *determine* but instead *reflect* ***“the scripture of truth”*** Daniel 10:21.

1 John 5:7, 8

Dr David Cloud³⁰, Way of Life Literature:

1 John 5:7 stood unchallenged in the English Bible for a full six hundred years. It was in the first English Bible by John Wycliffe in 1380, in Tyndale’s New Testament of 1525, the Coverdale Bible of 1535, the Matthew’s Bible of 1537, the Taverner Bible of 1539, the Great Bible of 1539, the Geneva New Testament of 1557, the Bishop’s Bible of 1568, and the Authorized Version of 1611. It did not disappear from a standard English Bible until the English Revised of 1881 omitted it.

Dr Ruckman³¹, Pensacola Bible Institute:

Watch God Almighty preserving His words. In spite of the negative, critical, destructive work of “godly Conservative and Evangelical “scholars.” AD 170: Old Syriac and Old Latin, AD 180: Tatian and Old Syriac, AD 200: Tertullian and Old Latin, AD 250: Cyprian and Old Latin, AD 350: Priscillian and Athanasius, AD 415: Council of Carthage, AD 450: Jerome’s Vulgate, AD 510: Fulgentius, AD 750: Wianburgensis, AD 1150: Miniscule manuscript 88, AD 1200-1500: Four Waldensian Bibles, AD 1519: Greek Manuscript 61, AD 1520-1611: Erasmus TR, AD 1611: King James Authorized Version of the Holy Bible. God had to work a miracle to get the truth of 1 John 5:7-8 preserved; He preserved it.

David Daniels³² reviews the evidence for 1 John 5:7-8 and states *157-1600s AD Waldensian (that is, Vaudois) Bibles have the verse. It took [the Roman Catholic religion] until the 1650s to finish their hateful attacks...on the Vaudois and their Bible. But the Vaudois were successful in preserving God’s words to the days of the Reformation.*

See further these extensive reviews in favour of 1 John 5:7, 8³³:

Bro. Will Kinney states:

If you are looking to scholars to settle the issue for you, there will never be any certainty at all. Those who criticize the King James Bible as being just another fallible book, riddled with errors, have nothing sure and certain to give you in its place. They set themselves up as the final authority but they constantly differ among themselves. It is like playing “scholar poker.” “Well, my scholars can beat your scholars.” “No, they can’t. I’ll see your scholars and raise you two more.”

They may say that Dr. So and So went to Dallas Theological Whatever and he doesn't believe 1 John 5:7 should be in the bible. Well, on the other hand, there are many learned men with just as much knowledge who absolutely believe 1 John 5:7 belongs in the Holy Bible.

Here is just a partial list of those who contended for the authenticity of this verse.

Cyprian 250 AD, Athanasius 350 A.D., Priscillian 385 AD, Jerome 420 AD, Fulgentius, Cassiodorus, Isidore of Seville, Jaqub of Edessa, Thomas Aquinas, John Wycliffe, Desiderus Erasmus, Lopez de Zuniga, John Calvin, Theodore Beza, Cipriano de Valera, John Owen, Francis Turretin, John Wesley, John Gill, Matthew Henry, Andrew Fuller, Thomas F. Middleton, Luis Gaussen, Frederick Nolan, Robert L. Dabney, Thomas Strouse, Floyd Jones, Peter Ruckman, George Ricker Berry, Edward F. Hills, David Otis Fuller, Thomas Holland, Michael Maynard and Donald A. Waite.

**Heaven and earth shall
pass away: but my words
shall not pass away.**

Luke 21.33

Authorised (King James) Version



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Note that www.avpublications.com/avnew/home.html now links to avpublications.com/.

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