

# Behold What Manner of Love

## An Expository Study of the Epistle of **1 John 5:11-13**

Chapter 26- The Divine Witness  
253 The Divine Witness- Part 10

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WAOY Tuesday 09/30/08

Welcome again, my beloved in Jesus Christ. We are continuing to go over our verse by verse study of the Epistle of **1 John**, and today we are going to continue to look at what John taught about the Divine Witness- so let's read **1John 5:11-13**.

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

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

**13 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.**

Now once again here in verse 13- the Apostle John tells us why he has written this Epistle:

**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.**

John says here that this Epistle is all about Jesus, and all that he wrote is so that we will rightly know Jesus and rightly serve Him. So we can look at this Epistle as a sort of measurement of our own spiritual condition. For example- if we believe things about Jesus that John didn't say- then it probably isn't true. If we are behaving in a way that John condemns in this Epistle- then we can know for sure that we are wrong.

So in these three verses- we need to ask the question- "*Just what is being testified to?*" Just what is the essential content of this Divine Witness?

Now in one sense- this is an unnecessary question because John has been answering that question all along- but in another sense- this is a very important question because a short summary of just what God's Witness about Who Jesus is would be very helpful for us. And so John gives us that summary right here in verses 11& 12:

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

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

John says this is the record or the testimony or the Divine witness that God has provided for us- that He has given to us eternal life and this life is in His Son.

Now when John use the phrase "in His Son," he used a particular Greek grammatical style that is exclusionary. In other words – when John said that this life is in His Son- he was actually saying that eternal life is found *exclusively* in Jesus Christ and cannot be found anywhere else or through anyone else.

So people go to Heaven through Jesus or they do not go to Heaven- period. It is Jesus or nothing. And it is not Jesus plus something else- it is Jesus alone.

Now you would think that was pretty clear- but in our day- you can't assume *anything* so in order to be clear about just what John was talking about here it needs to be said that we do not receive eternal life because we are nice or because we are good or because we try real hard to obey the Ten Commandments or because we live by the Golden Rule or because we live by the Sermon on the Mount.

Nobody receives eternal life because they were baptized or because they speak in tongues or because they prayed the rosary or because they gave money to the Church or because they believe that some type of god exists.

Nobody received eternal life because they kept Communion or because they went to Confession or because they went through the Rite

Penance. Nobody receives eternal life because excess merit from the Holy Family was given to them in Purgatory. Nobody receives eternal life because they were baptized in the river Jordan or because they gave seed money to some TV preacher or because they were anointed with oil from the Garden of Gethsemane.

None of those things provides eternal life to us. John says that eternal life is found in Jesus Christ and only in Jesus Christ. And any teaching from any group or any individual that says that eternal life is found anywhere else beside Jesus is a lie.

Now you may think that I am being too hard about this- but, dear friends, there are literally billions of people on earth today who honestly believe that eternal life can be found in any number of ways through many different things or people beside Jesus, and these people go to great lengths to try to obtain eternal life by various means and I tell you- it breaks your heart.

Honest, sincere people spending tons of money and almost their entire lifetimes going through manmade rituals and ceremonies that can never give them eternal life, and they do unbelievable things in order to obtain eternal life- all because they weren't taught at all or because they were taught wrongly.

Think of the great volume of human suffering that could be done away if only ministers would have the courage to teach what God said rather than what is popular. Think how much untold agony could be avoided if only people understood that God is infinitely more interested in us being holy than He is in us being happy, and that this whole thing is not about God making much of us- it is about us making much of God.

John said in verse 12 that every single human being on earth that has the Son- already has eternal life. It isn't that they are *developing* eternal life like Mormonism and Hinduism and Gnosticism teaches, but that they already have eternal life. And the reason that this is true is because eternal life is found nowhere else but in Jesus Christ.

And then John also said the same thing- but in the negative:

**... he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.**

So in reality there are only two groups of people on earth- those who have life in Jesus and those who do not have life in whatever else they have. So we might say in Alabama English that there are people

who are alive and people who are dead. And every single saved person on earth is alive and every single lost person is already dead.

Now that is quite clear but we live in a time when we are bombarded with unbiblical and humanistic teaching on a daily basis so that often we lose sight of the simple but profound truth that every single human being born of woman is born sinful and utterly corrupt and completely separated from God.

No one is born good, there are no good people on earth, nobody is righteous, all men are evil and wicked, and every human on earth lives in hostile rebellion toward God and the things of God on a daily basis.

That is what it means to be lost. And I think that we need to revisit the definition of what it means to be lost often lest we begin to believe the garbage that is poured into our eyes and ears and minds and hearts by people who do not believe the Bible is true.

The pagan world teaches that people are born internally good- that they are internally just fine at birth. The world then goes on to teach that it is what happens to this good person *externally* during their life that makes them bad- like a mean father, or a lack of money, or a lack of opportunity, or poverty, or because mom wouldn't let them have a kitty cat.

So the lost world teaches that by teaching this person to look inward- inside himself- into the life that is supposedly already in them- all bad people can tap into that inner strength and that inner power, and they can become good again and then they can fulfill all their dreams.

So the goal in this teaching is to build up the inner self of Man- and so concepts like self-esteem, self-worth, self-help, self-fulfillment, self-righteousness, and self-satisfaction are concepts that are very important if you buy into this false pagan unbiblical teaching.

Now what I just described for you is the state sponsored religion of the United States of America, and this religion is taught in every public school and in every major University, and it is taught and practiced on Wall Street and on Madison Avenue.

And unfortunately in our day this false pagan unbiblical religion is also taught by many of the television preachers on the Hay, Wood, and Stubble Television Network. This false religion is also unfortunately taught in many of our Churches, and you will find these

concepts of the self of Man in almost every single Christian major best seller published in the last fifty years.

This religion is called Secular Humanism, and it was invented by the heretic Pelagius almost 1700 years ago as he fought Augustine over Original Sin, The Sovereignty of God, and Grace.

Now I have no idea why *anyone* who names the great Name of Jesus would ever want to believe or teach *anything* that a heretic taught- but nevertheless- the antichrist religion of Secular Humanism is more popular today than it was when Pelagius first brought it forth seventeen centuries ago.

But the Bible teaches just the opposite. The Bible teaches that what is *wrong* with Man is *internal*- not external. The Bible teaches that the source of all evil lies inside the fallen and depraved heart of Man and all wickedness, sin, crime, violence, war, malice, strife, anger, bitterness- every malady on earth is resident in the human heart at the very moment of conception.

And the Bible goes on to say that not only does fallen Man not have any inner strength or inner power to look to or to develop- the Bible teaches that all men are born dead- that they do not possess any life at all other than that which is in their sinful flesh for a few years. So the Bible says that no good thing resides internally in fallen Man.

Then the Bible goes on to say that the only hope for this sinful fallen dead man is *external*- outside of him- the Gospel, the Death, Burial and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the Sovereign Grace of God.

So in order to be saved- God has to initiate Redemption because man is dead and he cannot see, he cannot hear, he cannot believe, and he cannot choose to love and serve God- he has no power at all in this regard because he is dead.

So this is where Grace comes in. God rescues fallen Man, God goes to where man is because man cannot go to where God is. God chooses Man- Man doesn't choose God- that is preposterous- fallen Man can't choose anything concerning God or the things of God because he is dead.

But although we deserve to burn in hell forever- God graciously washes us and saves us and changes us and adopts us and we become bond slaves to Jesus Christ.

Now, the reason that the order of this matters is because if the Bible is correct- then the last thing that any dead, fallen sinful Man needs is to look inward. What is he going to look at- his wicked heart? Righteousness does not come from within- Righteousness comes from without- from Jesus Christ- even as life does not come from within the Man- no, the Bible teaches that eternal life only comes from outside of us- from God's Own Son.

So Humanism is the religion that baits people with the lie that says that if only we can build up our self-esteem or self-worth- we can be great in the earth and fulfill all our dreams.

Christianity says that lost sinful wicked fallen dead people are miraculously and supernaturally and Sovereignly saved by a good and loving God Who calls us to come to the Cross and die, to decrease, to go down, to end the search to fulfill our own dreams, and to live only to glorify God and to fulfill His Dream.

So Humanism is not a tool that helps anyone. Humanism is evil and it is an affront to the Cross of Jesus Christ and those who teach it, and those who believe it are in fact fighting against God's Plan for Salvation.

So the next time you hear anyone teach about building up self-worth or self-esteem or self-fulfillment, the next time you hear anyone teach about releasing the giant that lives inside you or tapping into your inner strength- think heresy and think false religion and think paganism and, then thank God that He has given you eyes to see and ears to hear.

The Apostle John said that eternal life is found exclusively in Jesus Christ, and **He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.**

Well, I have to stop right here, but please join me on the next broadcast as we continue our journey through the Epistle of **1John**. May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.