

The Case for Christ

1 John 5:6-13

In keeping with the biblical injunction that every fact should be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses (Deut 19:15; 2 Cor 13:1), John presents three points of God's witness to the person of Jesus Christ.

I. God gave witness to Jesus Christ at His

_____ (5:6, 8-9; cf. Mt. 3:1-17).

II. God gave witness to Jesus Christ at His

_____ (5:6, 8-9; cf. Mt. 27).

III. God gives witness to Jesus Christ through the

_____ (5:6, 8-9).

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to . . . Now it seems to me obvious that He was neither a lunatic nor a fiend: and consequently, however strange or terrifying or unlikely it may seem, I have to accept the view that He was and is God.

- C.S. Lewis

