

Gospel of John  
[Jesus' Self-Testimony (John 8:12-20)]

Introduction

-Two Distinguishing Characteristics of John's Gospel: 1) Repetition of Themes (signs, life, light, witness, believing, love, etc.) 2) 'I AM' sayings (6:20, 35, 48, 8:12, 24, 28, 58; 9:2; 10:7, 9, 11, 14; 11:25; 13:19; 14:6; 15:1, 5; 18:5, 6)

I. Jesus' Self-Testimony Stated (v. 12)

-Themes Related to Light: creation (1:1-10); spiritual life versus spiritual death (3:19-21; 12:35, 36, 46. See also Acts 26:18); symbolism of the Feast of Booths (ch. 7); healing of the man born blind (9:5)

-OT Allusions: Gen. 1:3; Ex. 13:21, 22; Ps. 27:1; 119:105; Is. 9:2 with Matt. 4:14-16; Is. 42:6; 49:6

II. Jesus' Self-Testimony Challenged (v. 13)

-Witness Motif in John (1:7, 8, 19, 32, 34; 2:25; 3:11, 26, 32, 33; 4:39; 5:31-47; 7:7, etc.); in John's other writings (1 John 1:2; 4:14; 5:9-11; 3 John 12; Revelation *passim*)

-The Pharisees misunderstand Jesus' words in John 5:31 (see John 8:26, 28).

-OT law concerning multiple witnesses: Deut. 17:6; 19:15

-The True Character of the Pharisees' Challenge (1 John 5:10)

III. Jesus' Self-Testimony Defended (vs. 14-20)

-His Defense Presented (vs. 14-18): Jesus is from heaven (1:14; 3:11, 13; 6:41, 50, 51; 7:27-29, 41, 42, 52; ) and is going back to heaven (7:33). He is therefore a valid witness about Himself, but the Pharisees are not because they don't know where Jesus is from or where He is going.

-The Father is also a valid witness, but the Pharisees don't know the Father.

-His Defense Reinforced (vs. 19, 20)

→Are you listening to what Jesus says about Himself?