

# Week of Meetings 08 1 John 5:

by Svend Christensen

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of having assurance of faith and the various witnesses that confirm our salvation.*

**Duration:** 51:45

**Topics:** "Divine Witnesses", "Eternal Life"

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## Description

In this sermon, the speaker emphasizes the importance of God's witnesses in our lives. He explains that God has given us both creation and revelation as witnesses to His existence and our eternal life. The speaker also highlights the ease and privilege of living for the Lord after being saved. He then goes on to discuss the various witnesses mentioned in the Bible, including the witness of blood, water, the Holy Spirit, man, God, the Word of God, answered prayer, and a new life. The sermon concludes with an invitation to attend their church services and a performance by the choir.

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## Transcript

It's a great joy to welcome so many friends here tonight. If you're here for the first time, let me say we're very, very happy to see you, and we would like you to write your name and address in the guest book out in the foyer there. Just don't put down your name and just the city you come from, but just put down the address and the zip code so that we can send you a brochure and let you know when we've got some special meetings here and keep in touch with you.

It's a great joy to have you with us. Tonight we have Mr. Zane Christensen as our speaker. He has been our guest speaker for the conference, speaking to us on Thursday and Friday and Saturday, and now finally tonight we've had some very wonderful ministry on John's first epistle, small epistle with five chapters.

And whilst Mr. Christensen has only got into the first, second, and third chapters, he's going to jump right into the last chapter tonight, and I'm sure we're going to get some assurance from God's Word that he that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life. And in that connection now, if there should be anyone here tonight, and you have any doubt in your mind about the way of salvation, there are a few tracts out there on that little table. There's a wonderful little booklet called God's Way of Salvation.

I know no better. For those who are kind of on-again, off-again people, you know, they think they're saved today and tomorrow, they just wonder, they don't feel saved, this is the best thing you can read. The best

tract I know of to read.

There's another one out there called God's Way of Salvation. The reason why. New Zealand, greatly used of God.

God is greatly used. So, if there's any doubts in your mind about the way of salvation, or the assurance of salvation, there are two of these on the way out, and read them. I want to pick them up to give to some anxious souls.

Just do so. Now, we get up in the mountains, you know, and then we have to come to the case. But I like what the disciples did in the last verse but one of Luke's Gospel.

The Lord led them out as far as Bethany. He lifted up His hands and blessed them, and went up to glory. You know what it says? They returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

I think that's wonderful because trouble and persecution and problems awaited them at Jerusalem. And the Lord told them to stop witnessing at Jerusalem, but they returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And tomorrow we get back to our Jerusalem.

The normal, everyday things of life. Let's go back with great joy. Now, the regular, everyday things of life here this week, the meetings will be the women's prayer meeting at 10.30 on Tuesday morning.

Now, the lounge is being rearranged down there, and we don't want to re-rearrange it, but we'll fix it up so the ladies can have their prayer meeting down there Thursday morning. We're very shortly going to fix a workroom, 10.30, and Mrs. Fluge is going to give the ladies a talk about the missionary work in Peru and the Panama Canal Zone. Thursday night is our weekly prayer meeting, 7.30. Ministry and prayer, you're heartily invited.

Next Sunday our speaker will be Mr. William Brown from West Virginia. And I would say to those who are here tonight, visitors, that we have services here every Sunday morning at 11, and every Sunday evening at 7.30. Now we're going to hear from our choir, and they're doing very well. They're going to sing to us.

...meet each one of you dear Christians and have fellowship together. If it's weak here, what will it be up there? Now let's turn, please, tonight to the last chapter. We'll break into the chapter, verse 8. And there are three that bear witness in earth, and these three agree in one.

If we receive the witness of man, the witness of God is great. For this is the witness of God, which 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 believeth on the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God.

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us. And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him. May the Lord bless to us this reading from the Holy Word.

If I'm not mistaken, it was from this chapter that John Townshend, a humble, based most of his verses of assurance that he sent to Queen Victoria, came before her to the Queen and asked, Can we be sure in this life that we have eternal life right here now, can we be sure that all sins are forgiven? And apparently from the sermon that her own rector had preached, and in his remarks on it he left her in great doubt. So John Townshend sat down and he wrote a letter to her, and in that letter was quoted verses from this chapter. He that hath the Son hath life, he that hath not the Son hath not life.

These things have I written unto you, that believeth on the name of the Son of God, that ye may know that you have eternal life. This chapter has some wonderful witnesses in it. We're going to touch on some of these witnesses tonight that bear witness to the fact that we know right here and now without a shadow.

That's a wonderful thing to know, isn't it? Now before going into that, I just want to mention in chapter five, here the first part of it, we believe the first part, because reading these verses, Whosoever believeth on the name of the Son of God, we sing the hymns of that we have an anchor. Well here's the anchor of faith. Your faith isn't as important as the object of your faith.

And this is the anchor we fasten our faith to. The unmovable anchor. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God.

Then you see the assurance of faith in verse two. And this we know. This we know.

Oh, how John emphasizes and reemphasizes. This is not the language of a religionist. A religionist I've met for years.

I was a religionist and I used to speak in the term, I'm trying to be. People say to me, are you a Christian? I'm trying to be. I hope I am.

Other people, you talk like that too, you see. If you just use the word Christian, that's why I use it. And then this is the point altogether.

But we know we have the assurance of faith in verse two. Then you have the action of faith in verse 2b and the first part of verse 3. We keep his commandments. For this is the love of God that we keep his commandments.

Action of faith, when a person really saves, if any man be in Christ, he's a new creation. He loves to do the things that God wants him to do. And then the last part of verse 3, his commandments are not grievous.

And so I just outlined that as the agreeable mass of faith. Not grievous. God, when he saves you, then these things are not grievous to you.

Before you're saved. And this is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith. The accomplishment of faith.

Now we'll go into the witnesses here. And there's a lot of them. We can't mention them to you.

You can go over them a little more yourself. You have them in verse 6 and also in verse 8. You have the blood, witness of the blood. The water, the Holy Spirit.

In verse 9, you have the witness of man. In verse 9b, you have the witness of God. In verse 11 through to 13, you have the witness of the word of God.

The written word of God. Then you have the witness of answered prayer. From verse 14 down to 15.

And then you have the witness of a new life. Down to verse 18. And another witness is in the last three verses, 19 to 21.

You're the witness after you're saved, you have spiritual perception. Now I'm not going to speak on all of these, but I am going to... We have the blood that bears witness. Could help to think of a verse.

Hebrews chapter 9, verse 11, 12. I think it is. Verse 12.

We have the witness of the blood. Speaking of the dead of Christ. In the book of Revelation.

John saw the lamb and though he had been freshly slain. The marks of Calvary that we heard about this morning. Will always be fresh to the believer.

When the blood bears witness of our acceptance in Christ. When I see the blood as it were, I will pass over you. It's the blood that maketh the atonement.

I remember when I first started preaching as a young man, I went back to the home area after I'd been saved. And a dear old lady came to the meetings. And she went out to dinner.

And without the sharing of blood there's no remission. It's the blood that cleansed us from all sin. God's word says that.

And he says the blood completely takes away the sin. It completely removes sin. It doesn't cover it like the old testament.

He cleansed himself. Then you have in this chapter two, the witness of man. If we receive the witness of man, says John.

And we do all the time. We pick up the newspaper. We read different articles.

Because it depends sometimes who they are. Well, you don't have to just run up the door and down the neighborhood. Because he fooled you too many times with some of his.

But if you have an honest man. Now he says if you take the word of man, then God is far more dependable than man. He says if we receive the witness of man, the witness of God is greater.

And God has not left him without, himself without a witness. In Psalm 19, I believe it is. You have thus the heavens declare the glory of God.

Deals with God. But God has not a creation to witness for him. But thank God.

The revelation. Which we'll go into a little more. By the witnesses God has given us.

So we can know that we have eternal life. And tonight, as a man, I can tell you this. And many other men here tonight can stand up.

And they have met. If I was to call on witnesses here tonight, we could get on. So we certainly have.

And we have the witness of God. First we have the witness of God. Notice that in these verses.

Verse 6. The spirit is truth. The Holy Spirit never speaks a lie. Again in verse 8. The spirit is mentioned as a witness.

And again in verse 10. He that believeth on the Son of God himself. Paul in Romans says his spirit.

God's spirit bears witness with the youth. Now I had an unusual experience on this. And I remember when I was first saved.

In a home that did not serve. And I used to go along with these fellows to war. You see, I was raised to believe that you knew the bad ones, you see.

So these fellows began to tell me. He said, Sven, are you saved? He put me on the spot. If I say I'm saved, I may be presuming.

That was quite spot to be in, wasn't it? I didn't know these scriptures at that time. What does it say here? He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself. He that believeth.

Not God had made him a liar. I was afraid of that. But I don't, I think if there's wheels in there.

You know there's not, but there's just wheels there. The wheels in my little mind may just turn before. But anyway, as he paced through the question, the answer came out, yes.

And the moment I said yes, his spirit truly bore witness with my spirit. God gave me that assurance. I believe the Spirit of God.

He gave me that confidence. Now, I have the Word of God. And you know what, friend, I'm written here in the Word of God.

So you have the witness of the Holy Spirit. Then in a sense too, right here, you have the witness of the Spirit. Look what it says here.

This is the record that it shall have. That he witnesses to the Spirit. So we have the witness of God the Spirit.

And then we have the witness of Holy Scriptures. They're right here. 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. I like that.

It's so personal. These things have I written unto you. Who are the you that believe? Believe what? That Jesus is the Son of God.

Now tonight, Francis, can you take a minute's word? These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you believe in Him as the Son of God? Have you personally done what the Lord's Word says? Him, to them He gave the right to become the. Now you'll say to me, suppose this Bible represents the Lord Jesus.

Now God says the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. He's holding out the Lord Jesus to you. Then He says now to as many as receive Him.

To them He gives the right to become the children of God. And the Lord Jesus said Him that cometh to me, I will in no. I'll under no condition refuse Him.

Now here's God offering you His Son. Have you personally with the empty hand of faith taken Him and said thank you? There's two classes. He that hath and he that hath not.

Now what class are you in? There's a man came to the Highwater Hills Chapel for a few years. Very proud little gentleman. His wife accepted the Lord through Bible classes I had there.

And they used to come every Sunday. Then while we were up north just a year ago, suddenly he became so weak. He could hardly drive himself to the hospital.

They diagnosed his case and he was full of cancer. When I came back, they put him up in this hospital outside Jacksonville for the vets when he was an officer in the Navy. And I went in to visit Sam Boyd.

A man about 62 or something like that. And I went in to see Sam Boyd. He didn't know how serious he was.

He wasn't just dealing with this because now he thought... And he thought... Tell me this. Have you... And then I asked him. He said I... He said now look.

If I was giving you a gift. And I said now Sam here is a gift for you. Do you have to keep asking me for that gift every day? He says no.

You just take it once. To as many as we see them. He says to me.

There's a fellow that was a real friend of his and all that. He says tell Jim I got it. So thankful he got it saved a month before the Lord took him home.

He really got it. Why he... But you see God is offering you something. Eternal life in... And God's word is written to those that... That's what it means.

It doesn't just mean assets that you believe in the history. And if you believe that he came into the world. He died upon the cross.

And you believe in resurrection. That's what he's dealing with. Let me illustrate again.

When Blondin crossed the Niagara Falls. Across the cable. With a wheelbarrow.

And as he got to the other side all the cars... And they all cheered. And he said to a man. Do you believe in Blondin? Yes sir he did.

Well he said get in the wheelbarrow and I'll take you. He wouldn't do it. He said to a little boy.

Do you believe in Blondin? He said yes. Get in the wheelbarrow. You get in.

That's the difference. To as many as receive him. You put your trust in him.

You put your faith in the Lord Jesus. God's word says. He that hath the Son hath life.

These things have I written unto you. No. K-N-O-W.

Not hope so. Not guess you are. Not hoping for the best for the future.

For right here and now God has written. That's a good word to go to sleep on isn't it? So you have the assurance or the witness. Of the word of God.

And then also the practical aspect after that. If you have voice. Thank God when you get saved.

You can ask for. And the Lord Jesus Christ. As your Savior.

He answers prayer. Do you know something about that? Then you also have the witness. Of the new life.

Verse 18. We know that whosoever is born of God. Sin is not.

He doesn't practice a life of sin. His life is sin. And this is the witness.

Before I was saved I had no interest. After I got saved I couldn't get enough of it. What happened? God the Holy Spirit.

Came within. I received the divine nature. I was born of God.

And now that new nature. Like a new born baby. Had a desire for the sincere milk.

Another witness is that when you're saved. You have a new life. A new desire.

A new. While the birds they sing so much more sweetly. The flowers look so much more beautiful.

Everything is new and different. It's just a new life. Isn't that wonderful? And then there's something else.

John says. We know that we are of God. And we know that the Son of God.

Has come and has given us. You get an understanding. That we know Him that is true.

And we are in Him that is true. Even in His Son. You get a spiritual perception.

You read the Bible. See the Bible says. These are some of the witnesses.

The witness of the Holy Spirit. The witness of men. Especially those.

The witness of God. God the Father. God the Son.

God the Holy Spirit. We have eternal life. These things have a spiritual perception.

So you understand. What do you know tonight? The shadow of the devil. He wants you to know.

He's given us all these witnesses. To bear witness to the fact. We can know.

Right now. Now there's only two classes of people. This audience here tonight.

Is not divided by. You're either in Christ. Or you're out of Christ.

He that hath the Son. Hath life. He that hath not the Son of God.

Hath not life. Now it's one or the other. I call it first class.

Now if a person asks. What class are you in? Are you in the first class? Are you in he that hath or he that hath not. He that hath the Son.

Hath life. Present tense. Present possession.

Yours. Right here and now. Do you have it? Well then thank the Lord for it.

Tell others about it. Share what you have with others. And if you do not have it.

You can have it tonight. Because the Lord Jesus is knocking on your hearts door. Saying if any man will hear my voice.

And will open the door. I will. Not I may.

But I will. The door is on the. Or the handle.

The latch is on the inside. You must will to let him in. If any man will.

Open the door. I will. Lord Jesus.

I will let thee in. I have room for thee. Lord Jesus.

Come into my heart. And save me. Will you do that tonight? You are never too young for this.

If you can understand a little word. Come. And you will never be too old for this.

But this may be your last opportunity. Behold now is the accepted time. Behold now is the day of salvation.

Woe is not thyself of tomorrow. Thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. Today.

If you will hear his voice. Harden not your heart. Come today.

Now. Is the accepted time. Behold now.

Is the day of salvation. God grant. You come.

Right now. And accept him. As your first of savior.

Could have seen just the first and last stanzas. Of 2.26 in closing please. Just as I am.

That's the only way to come. John. Think of all this.

You need to say with that second. Waiting. Waiting is most dangerous.

Having the intention that someday you are going to accept Christ. Is most dangerous. Many many.

A person that woke. Has. Awakened in hell.

That intended to be saved. The only thing is to come. Let's sing the last stanza.

Thoughtfully and prayerfully. And if you are not saved. Be sure.

So you are definitely sure. John. As I am.

Every heart. For any that I have not saved. We do pray here now.

Jesus. Receive. Eternal life.

And for any that have any doubts. We pray that the message tonight may. Foolish you.

Bless each family here. Each family represented. Bless the call.

Jesus Christ. Amen. Very good.

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