

November 12, 2023
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
1 John 5:6-12

“Doctrinal Test #3: What Do You Believe About Jesus? Part 2”
“Got Jesus?”

- I. Prologue [Introduction] – 1:1-4
- II. Tests of Genuine Fellowship: Cycle (Spiral) #1 – 1:5 - 2:27 [Moral; Social; Doctrinal]
- III. Tests of Genuine Fellowship: Cycle (Spiral) #2 – 2:28 - 4:6 [Moral; Social; Doctrinal]
- IV. Tests of Genuine Fellowship: Cycle (Spiral) #3 – 4:7 - 5:21 [Social; Doctrinal; Moral]
 - A. The Social Test – 4:7 – 5:1
 - B. The Doctrinal Test – 5:1-12
 - 1. Genuine Salvation (1-5)
 - a. The Root: born of God (new birth)
 - b. The Fruit: biblical faith; love for God and His children; obedience; victory over the world
 - 2. Genuine _____ (6-12)
 - a. God’s testimony concerning the Genuine _____ (6-9)
 - b. God’s testimony concerning Genuine _____ (10-12)

So What?

Discussion & Application:

1. Have you ever **doubted** your salvation? What was happening in your life when those doubts occurred? If those doubts went away, what helped?
2. Some people think that all religions will ultimately lead you to God (heaven). They believe that those religions have different names for “God” and different paths to Him, but they all ultimately end up in the same place. What is wrong with this thinking? What is the difference between believing in “God” and believing in the true God of the Bible?
3. What are some practical examples of things people sincerely believed would help them, but they ended up being harmful? Why is the **object** of our faith so important?
4. What is John talking about in 1 John 5:6-8 when he talks about the testimony of the “**water**” and the “**blood**”? What does it have to do with the truth about Jesus? Why is this important?
5. How did (does) the **Spirit** testify as to the identity of Jesus? How did God the Father testify? If a friend of yours does not yet believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior, what specific things should you encourage them to do? What means does God use to open people’s eyes to the truth of Jesus?
6. What is God’s testimony in **1 John 5:9-12** concerning genuine salvation? What are the **four elements** of genuine saving faith that he describes?
7. Why does John use the possessive phrases “**has** the Son” and “does not **have** the Son of God” to describe someone who has eternal life or does not have eternal life? What does it mean to “have Jesus”? Have you “Got Jesus?”
8. How might you use the four points in 1 John 5:9-12 to present the gospel to a friend? Practice with someone in your group.
9. **Bonus questions for next time:** Does 1 John 5:14-15 mean that God is obligated to give us anything we ask in prayer? In vv. 16-17, what is “a sin not *leading* to death” vs “a sin *leading* to death”? In v. 18, is John saying we can achieve sinless perfection in this life? Who is John referring to in v. 20 when he says, “This is the true God and eternal life”? Why does John end his letter about assurance of salvation by giving a warning about idols?
10. Pray for **specific people** you know that don’t understand or believe in these truths about Jesus. Ask the Lord to give you an opportunity to share your testimony and how they too could have eternal life.
11. **Memorize** 1 John 5:6-12.

[Blanks: *Savior; Savior; Salvation*]