**Lessons from a Lockdown**

**Volume II**

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**Day 79**

**1 John 5:6-12**

This is the one who came by water and blood —Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. We accept human testimony, but God’s testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life

***Questions for Personal Reflection:***

1. How do I deal with scriptures that are difficult to understand?
2. Do I have trouble believing God? Why?
3. Am I willing to accept the truth that those without Jesus will not have eternal life? Why?
4. How has the world attacked my belief in Jesus?
5. Is my life a testimony about Jesus being the Son of God? Why?

***Insight:***

John says that Jesus came by water and blood and that these along with the Spirit testifies for Jesus. Sometimes we can encounter verses in the Bible that are difficult to understand. We must be careful that we give a meaning to words the author could not possibly have meant. How do we explain the water and the blood? One view is that the water and the blood refer to Jesus' humanity and alludes to John 19:34 which says, "Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus’ side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water." In the Contemporary English Version verse 6 is written this way. "Water and blood came out from the side of Jesus Christ. It wasn’t just water, but water and blood. The Spirit tells about this, because the Spirit is truthful." Another view is that water refers to his baptism and blood refers to his death. In the New Living Translation the same verse is written as, "And Jesus Christ was revealed as God’s Son by his baptism in water and by shedding his blood on the cross—not by water only, but by water and blood. And the Spirit, who is truth, confirms it with his testimony." Also the Good News Translations writes it as, " Jesus Christ is the one who came with the water of his baptism and the blood of his death. He came not only with the water, but with both the water and the blood. And the Spirit himself testifies that this is true, because the Spirit is truth." It must be remembers that when Jesus was baptized the Spirit descended on him and there was a voice from heaven saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." John also wrote in his gospel that the Father testified about Jesus (John 5:32). So which view is correct? Can it be both? The first view establishes testimony about Jesus' humanity while the second view establishes testimony as to his divinity.

While we may not be absolutely sure what John meant by water and blood, we do understand the point he was trying to make, that there are multiple sources of testimonies about Jesus. More importantly these testimonies came from God himself. These testimonies establish the truth about Jesus Christ.

The world will always try to make us doubt Jesus. It will try to make us feel insecure about our faith. Those who follow Jesus are often portrayed in the world as backward or unsophisticated thinkers or even foolish. We may be labeled as intolerant or be called bigots because we do not approve of what the world approves of. Because what we believe about Jesus is in the Bible, it is also attacked as being mere propaganda or at best an incomplete collection. But we must remain firm in our belief in Jesus despite this relentless attacks on his humanity and divinity.

God does not force us to believe in Jesus. God gives us the right to choose. John lists the evidence. But God leaves it up to us to believe the evidence or not. However, we must choose. If we do not choose to believe then we are making the choice not to believe.

If we choose to believe that Jesus is the Son of God, then this has implications on how we live our lives. If we believe that Jesus is the Son of God then we must believe everything he taught and obey all of his commands. This means we ought to worship Jesus and that he must be Lord of our lives. This means that our lives must also be testimonies about Jesus being the Son of God.

God has given us eternal life in his Son. What this means is that those who do not have the Son does not have eternal life. A person who does not have eternal life has eternal punishment instead (Matthew 25:46). This is hard teaching. This is hardest to accept when we have loved one who died who did not become disciples of Jesus. While we have no trouble preaching this truth when we study the Bible with people, it is not as easy when it is a loved one who does not believe. But the Bible is clear that those who do not have the Son, does not have eternal life. This truth should make us urgent in reaching out to people and more passionate in our prayers for them.

Let our lives be evidence that proves that Jesus is the Son of God.