

## Ten Witnesses To The Sinlessness Of Christ

### Introduction.

1. The sinlessness of Christ is absolutely vital to the salvation of men.
  - a. One who is a sinner needs a Savior - not be the Savior!
  - b. For Jesus to be the Savior of the world, He had to be without a single sin.
  - c. This sinlessness had to span His whole life on the earth and not describe brief or long periods of His life.
2. Mankind is sinful and no accountable person, knowing right from wrong, is sinless.
  - a. All have sinned. (Rom. 3:10-11, 23).

Rom 3:10 as it is written, "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;  
Rom 3:11 THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;  
Rom 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- No one can be righteous without Christ.
- In Christ one can be righteous. (Matt. 25:46; Jas. 5:16; 1 Pet. 3:12; 1 Jn. 3:7).
- b. Man is lost and he cannot save himself by good deeds, education, power, money, fame nor by any of His own achievements.

3. The Bible also teaches that the blood of animals could not atone for sins. (Heb. 10:4).

Heb 10:4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

4. There was just one way for man to be saved and that was the sacrifice of the Sinless One on the cross.
  - a. If Jesus committed a single sin, He would then be a sinner and need a Savior.
  - b. The salvation of man depends on the sinless Christ shedding His blood for mankind. (Heb. 9:22).

Heb 9:22 And according to the Law, {one may} almost {say,} all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

- c. Only a sinless One [a perfect sin human sacrifice] could atone for the sins of man.
  - 1) A baby, a child, an unaccountable person would not be acceptable by God to atone for the sins of humanity.
  - 2) It required the sacrifice of one who was tempted in all the ways we are tempted, but who never yielded to temptation.
7. Jesus was sinless even though He was tempted with strong temptations. (Matt. 4:8-10).

a. Satan tempted Jesus with a powerful temptation having taken Him "to a very high mountain."

Matt 4:8. Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory;

Matt 4:9 and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." Matt 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

b. Jesus came into the world to die for man, and He knew He must die on the cross to become the Savior.

c. It would have been so easy for Him to yield to this temptation of worshiping Satan and escape His crucifixion.

d. Accepting the devil's temptation would bring Him vast worldly power and wealth rather than dying a horrible and shameful and painful death on a Roman cross.

e. Jesus loved His Father and mankind too much to yield to the will of Satan.

8. Jesus died for mankind and became the propitiation [the atoning sacrifice] for the sins of all who trust in Him for salvation. (Isa. 53:4-6).

Is 53:4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.

Is 53:5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being {fell} upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.

Is 53:6 All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

a. Jesus died for the sins of all.

b. On the cross Isaiah prophesied "But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

9. This lesson will substantiate the sinlessness of Christ by studying "Ten Witnesses To The Sinlessness of Christ."

10. Jesus was righteous in the absolute sense.

## **Pilate**

1. Pilate, the governor of Judea, is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (Jn. 19:1-4).

John 19:1 Pilate then took Jesus and scourged Him.

John 19:2 And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and put a purple robe on Him;

John 19:3 and they {began} to come up to Him and say, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and to give Him slaps {in the face.} John 19:4 Pilate came out again and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him."

2. The wicked governor exclaimed "I find no guilt in Him."

a. The religious leaders of Israel had made many false charges against Jesus. (Lk. 23:1-2)

Luke 23:1 Then the whole body of them got up and brought Him before Pilate.

Luke 23:2 And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a King."

- b. Pilate was smart enough to recognize these charges were false and were coming from a group of men who were jealous of Jesus and hated Him.
  - c. Though he had no love for Jesus, he found "no guilt in Him."
3. It is sad Pilate did not have the courage to free Jesus rather than to yield to those who hated Christ.

### **Pilate's Wife**

1. Pilate's wife is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (Matt. 27:19).

Matt 27:19 While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him {a message,} saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him."

2. This lady had "suffered greatly in a dream because of Him."
- a. Her dream had convinced her that the Jesus was righteous and she warned her husband "Have nothing to do with that righteous man."
  - b. We do not know the content of her dream, but it certainly put fear in her!
  - c. This was a very wicked woman, but she warned her husband not to get involved with Jesus.

### **Judas Iscariot**

1. Judas Iscariot is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (Matt. 27:3-4).

Matt 27:3 Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

Matt 27:4 saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See {to that} yourself!"

2. Judas was a thief who was stealing from the purse [money box] of the apostles. (Jn. 12:6).

John 12:6 Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it.

3. The love of money later led him to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.
4. It would seem he believed they would not condemn Jesus to death, but would punish Him.
5. Once he saw this was not going to be the case, he with great remorse,"returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders."
5. His remorse was so great that he "hanged himself." (Matt. 27:5).

Matt 27:5 And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.

6. It must not be overlooked that this man who had spent about 3 years with Christ said "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood."

### **The Dying Thief**

1. This dying thief is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (Lk. 23:39-43).

Luke 23:39 One of the criminals who were hanged {there} was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

Luke 23:40 But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

Luke 23:41 **"And we indeed {are suffering} justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."**

Luke 23:42 And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" Luke 23:43 And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."

2. This thief declared he and the other thief were suffering "justly," "but this man has done nothing wrong."
3. It is not revealed how he came to this conclusion about Jesus.
  - a. It is possible he had heard Christ preach and even witnessed one of more miracles.
  - b. It is possible he came to this conclusion because of the way Jesus was handling the mocking, the pain, etc. Jesus was acting completely different than others who were crucified.
  - c. The darkness covering the earth would have convinced him the Romans had crucified a righteous person. (Matt. 27:45).

Matt 27:45 Now from the sixth hour darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour.

- d All three possibilities may be true.
4. The fact remains he declared Jesus had done nothing wrong.

### **The Roman Centurion**

1. The Roman Centurion is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (Lk. 23:47).

Luke 23:47 Now when the centurion saw what had happened, he {began} praising God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent."

2. The centurion had likely crucified others besides Jesus and these two thieves.
3. The conduct of Jesus, the earthquake, and the darkness that covered the earth convinced him Jesus was not a man who was guilty of wrongdoing.
4. Matthew records the centurion also spoke these words. (Matt. 27:54).

Matt 27:54 Now the centurion, and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that were happening, became very frightened and said, **"Truly this was the Son of God!"**

### **Christ Himself**

1. Christ Himself is a witness to His sinlessness. (Jn. 14:28-30).

John 14:28 "You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

John 14:29 "Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.

John 14:30 "I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me;

2. Jesus emphatically exclaimed of the devil "he has nothing in Me."

3. Satan had worked on Jesus His whole life, but he was never able to get Jesus to sin.

4. Jesus was the perfect, unblemished Son of God.

### **Paul**

1. Paul is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (2 Cor. 5:21).

2 Cor 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin {to be} sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2. Paul had once been an enemy of Christ and had persecuted His followers. (Acts 8:1-4).

3. He had been a blasphemer charging Jesus was not the Messiah, the Son of God, but was an imposter who deserved to die.

4. Jesus' appearance to him, on the road to Damascus, opened his eyes and he recognized Jesus was truly the sinless Son of God who "knew no sin."

5. He devoted his life to the Sinless One. (Phil. 1:21; Gal. 2:20).

### **Peter**

1. Peter is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (1 Pet. 2:22).

1 Pet 2:22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

2. Peter had been with Jesus about 3 years.

3. He had witnessed Jesus' conduct, ate with Him, prayed with Him, heard His teachings and witnessed His miracles.

4. He knew full well Jesus was sinless and had dedicated his life to preaching the sinless Christ who was the sinless Redeemer and King.

5. He was willing to suffer much and die for his conviction!

6. Jesus had prophesied Peter would die a violent death. (Jn. 21:8).

John 21:18 "Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to {go.}"

- a. We do not know exactly how Peter died.
- b. Tradition states he died upside down on a Roman cross because he did not feel worthy to die in the same way Jesus died.

### **The Author Of Hebrews**

1. The author of Hebrews is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (Heb. 4:15).

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as {we are, yet} without sin.

2. Jesus was tempted in all the ways we are tempted, but "without sin."

3. This means Satan tempted Jesus with his full arsenal of temptations described in 1 John 2:15-16.

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

### **John The Apostle**

1. The apostle John is a witness of the sinlessness of Christ. (1 Jn. 3:5).

1 John 3:5 You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.

2. John makes two bold and truthful statements about Jesus.

- a. "He appeared in order to take away sins."

- b. "And in Him there is no sin."

- 1) John was very close to Jesus and observed His behavior on a daily basis.

- 2) He had witnessed no sin nor had the other apostles.

- 3) John had been baptized with the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit had no charge of sin against Jesus.

### **Conclusion**

1. Wise people will not dismiss these ten witnesses to the righteousness and sinlessness of Jesus.

2. Wise people will accept the sinlessness of Christ and obey the One who laid down His sinless life that all might be saved.

3. Jesus invites all to come to Him for salvation and rest. (Matt. 11:28-30).

Matt 11:28 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Matt 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.

Matt 11:30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

`"Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE ,

