

Why Do We Believe?

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: I John 5:6-13.

B. The note of positive assurance “we know” is a mark of Christianity.

II. The genius of the Christian faith is that it rests upon facts.

A. The acts of God are embedded in the human race.

B. Consequently, unbelief is unreasonable.

III. It is universally agreed that I John 5:7 mentioning the Trinity found in the King James Version is not original to the Bible.

IV. The testimony: the water, blood, and the Spirit.

A. These testify to the fundamental facts of the Christian faith.

B. Faith is not believing a set of fundamental facts—it is acting on the facts one believes.

C. The facts.

1. That symbolized by water and blood.

a. These mark the beginning and end of Jesus’ ministry.

b. Water marks Jesus’ baptism.

c. Blood marks His death.

d. Christ is the supreme fact upon which Christian faith rests.

e. Two qualities mark His life.

1) The water of baptism marks the cleansing of life—Jesus was our representative through baptism.

2) The blood marks Christ’s atoning death for the sins of the world.

2. That brought about by the Spirit of God within.

a. The Spirit personalizes the word of the cross.

b. The Spirit also relieves that great sense of guilt through the gospel.

D. The testimony is that God has given to man the thing he lacks—eternal life.

1. This is life in quantity but more importantly, in quality.
2. Life that is lived to the fullest is God's gift to man.
3. He who has the Son has life because the Son is life.

Application questions:

1. What role do facts play in Christianity? Explain.

2. What do the water and the blood symbolize in this passage? Why are these so important?

3. What does it mean to have eternal life? How can you be sure that you have it?
