



Berean Christian Fellowship

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False Reports

“You shall not bear a false report; do not join your hand with a wicked man to be a malicious witness” (Exodus 23:1).

Never before in human history have there been so many false reports given about God. Today, religions and cults are skyrocketing, offering conflicting testimony about the nature of God and even the nature of Jesus.

Some people step boldly away from Scripture with their false testimony. They are like people who argue marriage can include two men or a cat or a beloved bridge—their false testimony is so obvious that they are easy to distinguish from Truth. Such are the Jehovah’s Witness, Mormonism, Islam, Christian Science, Unitarianism, etc. These “pretenders” are easily recognizable to anyone who reads the Bible or has sat under Biblical teaching.

Malicious witnesses don’t always offer such preposterous testimony, however. Rather than draw attention to themselves with outrageous claims, they distort subtle details from within the Church, so they might even cause truthful witnesses to doubt their own testimony. For example, one may say, “Jesus says every Believer will prosper in health and wealth if they give His Church money — ‘give and it will be given to you’ (Luke 6:38),” while Christ’s testimony is that Believers often suffer loss for His name’s sake, to be glorified at His Second Coming (Matthew 19:29; Luke 21:12). These false witnesses are much more difficult to expose because their false testimony takes energy to unravel. Maybe we just “misunderstood” them. Maybe it’s just a “different point of view.” A few Believers see the lie, but most heedlessly take it all for the truth. The devil is skilled at “tweaking” truth just enough to cause harm, but not enough that it is easy to spot.

As Believers, we encounter false testimony all the time and may even accept it as true without knowing it. In a world filled with false witnesses, what witnesses can we trust? THE WORD OF GOD—Moses commanded the Israelites to “*take this book of the law and place it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may remain there as a witness against you*” (Deuteronomy 31:26). In the New Testament, Jesus told the Jews, “*you search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me*” (John 5:39). The Word of God is a faithful witness about the nature of God and the nature of Jesus. It is a witness against mankind’s sinful state (the Law and Prophets) and a witness of God’s salvation to mankind from that fallen state (the Gospel). We need to know it. THE HOLY SPIRIT is also a faithful witness: “*When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me*” (John 15:26), “*for He will take what is Mine and will disclose it to you*” (John 16:14). BELIEVERS inspired by the Holy Spirit are also God’s witnesses: “*And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him*” (Acts 5:32), “*and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth*” (Acts 1:8).

GOD HIMSELF will rise up as a witness: “*Therefore wait for Me, declares the Lord, For the day when I rise up as a witness...For all the earth will be devoured By the fire of My zeal*” (Zephaniah 3:8). In that Day, Jesus will judge the entire earth by His testimony, and He will justify His faithful witnesses who lost so much for their testimony, while false reports will perish. May we be His faithful witnesses till that day. Amen.

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