

Gospel by the Numbers

The Number of Confirmation

3

Three Witnesses

How numbers are used

- 1 – Number of Priority
- 2 – Number of Choice
- 3 – Number of Confirmation

John's three witnesses

- The Certainty of God's Witness
 - **1 John 5:6-8** This is He who came by water and blood— Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸ And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

Witnesses establish what happened. .

- **Matt 18:16** ¹⁵ “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that ‘by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.’

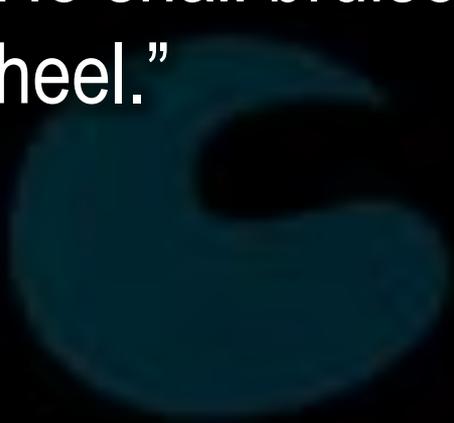
Three Witnesses on earth agree

- The Spirit, the water, the blood



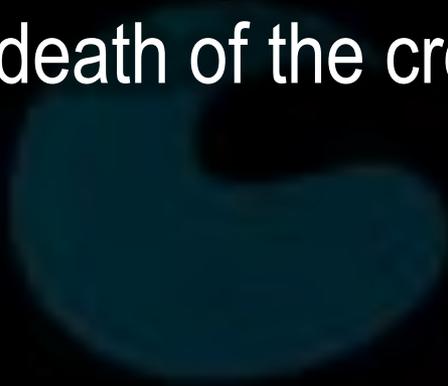
Blood is a witness

- **Genesis 3:15** And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”



Blood is a witness

- **Philippians 2:5-8** Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ..⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross.



Blood is a witness

- **Galatians 3:1** O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?



Water is a witness

- **Matthew 3:13-17** Jesus' baptism confirmed by the Father's words
- **Matthew 28:19** Jesus' final instructions..
- **Galatians 3:27** as many of you as were baptized put on Christ



Water is a witness

- **Joshua 4:5-7** “Cross over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of the Jordan, and each one of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, ⁶ that this may be a sign among you when your children ask in time to come, saying, ‘What do these stones *mean* to you?’ ⁷ Then you shall answer them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.”

The Spirit is a witness

- **Luke 4:18** “The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to *the* captives And recovery of sight to *the* blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

The Spirit is a witness

- **1 Peter 1:10-12** Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace *that would come to you*, ¹¹ searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

The Spirit is a witness

- **Heb 2:1-4** Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. ² For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

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