


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

Testimonies About Jesus

Q1. To whom is Jesus speaking? Who, primarily, is His audience? (See verse 5:16)

³¹ "If I testify about myself, my testimony is not valid.

Q2. Why would Jesus say that his "testimony is not valid"?

Deuteronomy 17:6

On the testimony of two or three witnesses a man shall be put to death, but no one shall be put to death on the testimony of only one witness.

Deuteronomy 19:15

One witness is not enough to convict a man accused of any crime or offense he may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

³² There is another who testifies in my favor, and I know that his testimony about me is valid.

Q3. Who is the "*another* who testifies in my favor"? (Some might say John the Baptist, but when taken in context with verse 33, this "another" seems to be a different source, a better source. See 5:37-38 ↓.)

Q4. How do we know that his testimony is valid?


³³ "You have sent to John and he has testified to the truth.

Q5. Who is this "John"?

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

Q6. To what “truth” did this John testify? (Review John 3:22-36)

Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

³⁴ Not that I accept human testimony; but I mention it that you may be saved.

Q7. Jesus was human; why did He state that He did not “accept human testimony”? Whose testimony did He accept? See verses 37-38 (↓).

Q8. When Jesus mentioned the phrase “that you may be saved”, what questions might a person in His audience ask of him- or herself?

Psalm 19:7

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

³⁵ John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.

Q9. How would explain verse 35?

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

³⁶ "I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the very work that the Father has given me to finish, and which I am doing, testifies that the Father has sent me.

Q10. How does Jesus' work testify "that the Father has sent me"?

Q11. Why would the testimony to which Jesus refers be "weightier than that of John"?

³⁷ And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form, ³⁸ nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent.

Q12. Verse 37: how does the Father testify about Jesus?


Q13. Verse 38: who or what is the "word"?

³⁹ You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me to have life.


Q14. Verse 39: what did Jesus mean when He accused the Jews, "you think that by them you possess eternal life"?

Q15. Verse 40: to what "life" is Jesus referring?

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

 For extra credit, here are several Old Testament Biblical prophesies to the Messiah, which was fulfilled by Jesus: Genesis 3:15^b (temporary struggle between Jesus and Satan); Genesis 49:10 (Messiah is of Judah's lineage); Psalm 2:7-9; Psalm 22 (detail of Jesus' crucifixion foretold); Psalm 45:6-7; Psalm 118:26 (commemorated by Palm Sunday); Isaiah 7:14 (called Immanuel); Isaiah 9:6-7 (Messiah's human birth); Isaiah 40:3 (John the Baptist, herald to the Messiah); Isaiah 40:5, 9, 11 (Messiah as Shepherd); Isaiah 42:1&4; Micah 5:2 (born in Bethlehem); Daniel 7:13-14 (Last Days: Messiah begins reign); Daniel 7:15-27 (Last Days: events & timings); and Daniel 12:6-13.

Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

⁴¹ "I do not accept praise from men, ⁴² but I know you. I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts.

Q16. How would the Jewish religious leaders react to Jesus when He tells them, "I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts"?

Q17. How might we – as we look back at the historical narrative – tell if Jesus' statement was true when He told them, "I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts"?

⁴³ I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him.

Q18. Has the world changed or does the world still denigrate (disparage, belittle, malign) the Name of Jesus?

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

⁴⁴ How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God?

Q19. This might also apply to us; how can we “obtain the praise that comes from the only God”?

Matthew 25:21

"His master replied, Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

⁴⁵ "But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. ⁴⁶ If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.

Q20. What Books of the Bible did Moses write?

Q21. Verse 45: why would Moses be their “accuser”?

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Genesis 12:3

I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 49:10

The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.

Exodus 12:21

Then Moses summoned all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go at once and select the animals for your families and slaughter the Passover lamb."

Leviticus 16:5


From the Israelite community he is to take two male goats for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

Numbers 24:17^a & 19^b

^{17 a} I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel.

^{19 b} A ruler will come out of Jacob

 The references in the Old Testament become more and more specific as the time nears for the Messiah's human birth. See Micah 5:2 (↓).

Micah 5:2 [written between 735 and 700 B.C. per ©2023 Got Questions Ministries at <https://www.gotquestions.org/Book-of-Micah.html>]

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

[Ephrathah distinguishes this Bethlehem as of the Tribe of Judah versus a similarly named village of the Tribe of Zebulun.]

⁴⁷ But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?"


Q22. How would the self-righteous Jewish leaders react to Jesus' accusation "you do not believe what he wrote"?

Q23. [Personal] Do you believe the Words of Christ Jesus?

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

John 6:1-24 (of 71 total verses in chapter 6)

Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand


¹ Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick.

Q24. Why did the crowds of people follow Jesus? Were they motivated to follow Him because He was the Son of God?

³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples.


Q25. Why did Jesus go up on the mountainside?

⁴ The Jewish Passover Feast was near.

 Commentators have offered several suggestions about the significance of verse 4. Two are included: (1) The Holy Spirit prompted John the Apostle to include this as a timestamp. (2) The Passover event was a great celebration that drew Jews from a wide region into Jerusalem. As a result, many pilgrims may have been on the road to Jerusalem and detoured to hear this man from Nazareth, whom some thought was a prophet, others a magician, and still others the Messiah.

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?"

 In verse 10, Scripture states that there were five thousand men. If women and children were added, the number might approach ten thousand people! If a loaf of unsliced bread could feed about five people, then the disciples would need about two thousand loaves of bread!

Q26. Think about the logistics of supplying bread to feed this mass of people. Were there local bread factories? How might they have transported the bread to this remote place? Thoughts?

⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

Q27. In verse 6 Scripture states that Jesus' wanted to "test" Philip (and the other disciples). Did Philip pass Jesus' test?

⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

Q28. Did Andrew's solution satisfy Jesus' "test" (verse 6)?

¹⁰ Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them.

Matthew 14:21 The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

 The Jewish culture segregated men from women and children.

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

Q29. As you sat and ate your fill, what thoughts might be going through your mind about the “Teacher”? If he over-satisfied your appetite, would you like to make Him king? Why?

Teacher?

King?

Q30. When Jesus gave “thanks”, who was He thanking? And why?

Who?

Why?

1 Chronicles 16:8 [English Standard Version (ESV)]

David's Song of Thanks

Oh, give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Matthew 15:36 [English Standard Version (ESV)]

He [Jesus] took the seven loaves and the fish, and having given thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.


Mark 8:6 [English Standard Version (ESV)]


And he [Jesus] directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.


Q31. Why did Jesus want all the leftover food collected?

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

 “ ‘Gather up the pieces’ - This command is omitted by the other evangelists. It shows the care of Jesus that there should be no waste. Though he had power to provide any quantity of food, yet he has here taught us that the bounties of Providence are not to be squandered. In all things the Saviour set us an example of frugality, though he had an infinite supply at his disposal; he was himself economical, though he was Lord of all. If he was thus saving, it becomes us dependent creatures not to waste the bounties of a beneficent Providence. And it especially becomes the rich not to squander the bounties of Providence. They often feel that they are rich. They have enough. They have no fear of want, and they do not feel the necessity of studying economy. Yet let them remember that what they have is the gift of God - just as certainly as the loaves and fishes created by the Saviour were his gift. It is not given them to waste, nor to spend in riot, nor to be the means of injuring their health or of shortening life. It is given to sustain life, to excite gratitude, to fit for the active service of God. Everything should be applied to its appropriate end, and nothing should be squandered or lost.” [©1834, *Notes on the Bible* by Albert Barnes. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/john/6-13.htm>]

 Each disciple filled a basket!

Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

¹⁴ After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." ¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

Q32. The people were ready to acknowledge Jesus as Messiah and king. Isn’t this a good thing? Why did Jesus walk away to a remote place?

Q33. If Jesus allowed Himself to be crowned king, what would be the expectations of Jesus’ subjects?

Q34. If Jesus allowed Himself to be crowned king, would Jesus’ subjects be drawn to the Father? Or to the King’s “vending machine”? What would be the short-term and then long-term results?

Drawn to the Father?

Drawn to the “vending machine”?

Short-term results?

Long-term results?


Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

Matthew 4:8-10

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.' [Deuteronomy 6.13]"

Day 6

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

Jesus Walks on the Water

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, ¹⁷ where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them.

Q35. Where was Jesus?

Q36. Were many of Jesus' disciples familiar with the sea and boating?

¹⁸ A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough.

Q37. How would you picture the sea and the sky?

Mark 6:47-48

⁴⁷ When evening came, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them....

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

¹⁹ When they had rowed three or three and a half miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were terrified.

Q38. Unless the night sky was lit by moonlight, how were the disciples able to see Jesus?

Q39. Why were the disciples “terrified”?

²⁰ But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid."

²¹ Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.

Q40. Why did the Holy Spirit through John include the phrase, “immediately the boat reached the shore”?

Mark 6:50-52

⁵⁰ ...Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." ⁵¹ Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵² for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

Q41. Referencing Mark 6:52 (↑), why did Mark [author of the Gospel of Mark] state, “their hearts were hardened”?

Exodus 9:34

When Pharaoh saw that the rain and hail and thunder had stopped, he sinned again: He and his officials hardened their hearts.

Exodus 10:1-2


¹ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his officials so that I may perform these miraculous signs of mine among them ² that you may tell your children and grandchildren how I dealt harshly with the Egyptians and how I performed my signs among them, and that you may know that I am the Lord ."

Lesson 8: John 5:31-6:24

Isaiah 6:8-10 [Isaiah wrote:]

⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

⁹ He said, "Go and tell this people [the Jewish people]: " 'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.' ¹⁰ Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

 Hardened hearts? What should we learn from Scripture about 'hardened hearts'? The Lord is patient so that no one is lost; however, His abundant patience does have limits. It is best to not test those limits.

²² The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. ²³ Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴ Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

Q42. What do you think motivates the crowd to search for Jesus?

Copyrights:

Questions: © For All Eternity on behalf of Christ Jesus.

Scripture: from the Holy Bible, New International Version [NIV] ®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Zondervan Publishing House.

Scripture: The Message (MSG): © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene H. Peterson, The Message (MSG)

Scripture: J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS). © 1960, 1972 by J. B. Phillips, *The New Testament in Modern English* by J.B Phillips.