



1 John

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1 John

1 John 5:10

- The Spirit gives an inner testimony for the one who trusts in the visible/verbal testimony.
 - The inner testimony:
 - Comes *after* one hears and believes the *outer* testimony.
 - Is *not* the only testimony nor the priority testimony.
 - The inner testimony (Romans 8:16) is supplemental to the outer testimony (2 Peter 1:19-20)
- Unbelief is the greatest sin. It is the equivalent of calling God a liar.
 - “he has not believed” is in the perfect tense. The unbeliever made a decision not to believe, and stands firm in their decision.

1 John 5:11-12

- The testimony we have, and that God has given, is that “God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.”
 - God gave (aorist) life and the life is (present) in His Son.
- The testimony about receiving that which has been given is also clear: it is only found in the Son.
- The truth of verses 11-12 have to be included in our evangelism.
 - God gave eternal life in a once-for-all act of propitiation.
 - That eternal life is found only in His Son, Jesus Christ.

1 John 5:11-12

- Translation issues

- “*The testimony is this: God has given us eternal life, and this life **has its source in his Son**. Whoever has the Son has this life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*” (1 John 5:11–12, GNB)

- The life is not *source in* Jesus, it is *in Jesus*.
- Jesus *is* eternal life (a statement made in John’s prologue of 1 John 1:1-2)

- “*This is the testimony **in essence**: God gave us eternal life; the life is in his Son. So, whoever has the Son, has life; whoever **rejects** the Son, rejects life.*” (1 John 5:11–12, The Message)

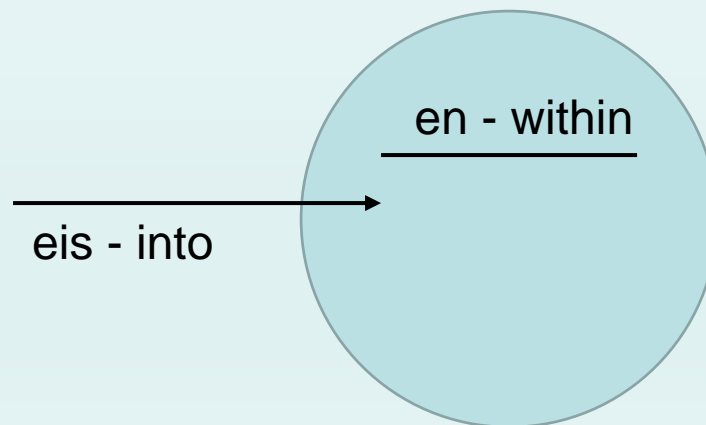
- There is no “essence” to the testimony. It is what it is!
- One does not need to *reject* the Son and thus *reject* life. A person is born *without the Son* and thus *without the life*.
- John 3:18, “*he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God*”

1 John 5:11-12

- Translation issues
 - “If you have the Son, you have eternal life. If you do not have the Son of God, **you are not acquainted with true life.**” (v. 12, *The Voice*)
 - This fails to warn people of the consequence for rejecting Jesus Christ. The problem is not that such a person wouldn't have *true life* but that such a person would have *death* and *second death*. It is doctrinal malpractice to translate the Scripture in such a way.

1 John 5:13

- What are “These things?”
 - The entire letter?
 - The context of chapter 5?
- I prefer to take 1:1-4 as the “purpose statement” of the book, and v. 13 as the summary of the belief section of chapter 5.
 - Do you believe that Jesus is the Messiah? (v. 1)
 - Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God? (v. 5)
 - Do you believe “into” the Son of God? (v. 10)
 - Since believe is a verb, it has an action. Do you “faith into the Son of God?”



1 John 5:13

- The KJV contains an additional phrase that expresses an additional purpose of the writing-
 - For the believer: that you might know that you have eternal life
 - For the unbeliever (presumably), that “ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

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