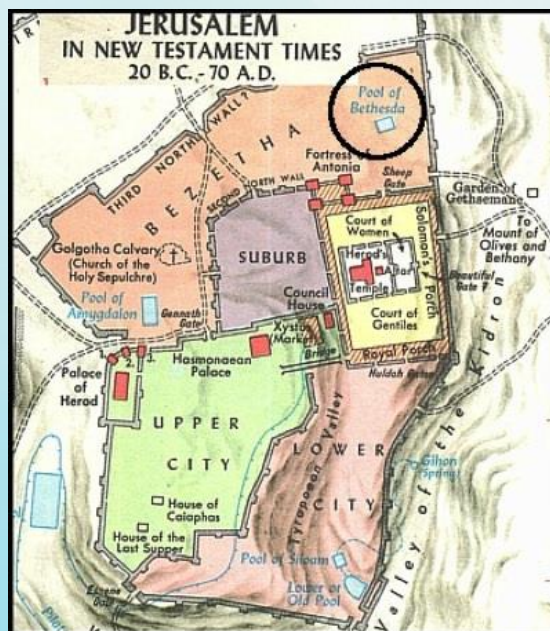


Knowing Christ

Abiding Word





- NIV **John 5:2** Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades.
 - *Bethesda* = house of grace or mercy

Testimony

- NAS **John 5:31** "If I alone bear witness of Myself, My testimony is not true. ³² "There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the testimony which He bears of Me is true.

Witness 1: John the Baptist

- ^{NAS} **John 5:33** "You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴ "But the witness which I receive is not from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. ³⁵ "He was the lamp that was burning and was shining ...
- ^{NAS} **John 1:29** The next day he [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world...³⁴ "And I have seen, and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

Witness 2: His Own Works

- ^{NAS} **John 5:36** "But the witness which I have is greater than that of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish, the very works that I do, bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me.
- ^{ESV} **John 3:2** This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

Witness 3: God the Father

- ^{NAS} **John 5:37** "And the Father who sent Me, He has borne witness of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.
- ^{NAS} **Matthew 3:17** and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."
- ^{NAS} **Matthew 17:5** While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"
- ^{NAS} **Matthew 16:17** And Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

Witness 4: Scripture

- ^{NAS} **John 5:39** "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that bear witness of Me;
- ^{NAS} **John 1:45** Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."
- ^{NAS} **Acts 26:22** "And so, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said was going to take place; ²³ that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He should be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles."

- NIV **Romans 1:2** the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures
- NAS **1 Peter 1:10** As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful search and inquiry, ¹¹ seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.
- NAS **Revelation 19:10** And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Witness 5: Moses

- **NAS John 5:45** "Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; the one who accuses you is Moses, in whom you have set your hope. ⁴⁶ "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote of Me.
- **NAS Galatians 3:24** Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith.
- **NAS Romans 7:7** What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; ...
- **ESV Colossians 2:17** These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

The Problem

- ^{NAS} **John 5:38** "And you do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He sent... ⁴² but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves... ⁴⁷ "But if you do not believe his [Moses] writings, how will you believe My words?"

➤ Cause of unbelief:

1. Word of God not abiding in them.
2. Love of God not abiding in them.

The Solution

➤ Cause of unbelief:

1. Word of God not abiding in them.
2. Love of God not abiding in them.

➤ Source of faith:

1. Word of God is abiding in you.
2. Love of God is abiding in you.

- *Note: the love of God abides in a person because the Holy Spirit abides within them.*

Abiding Love

- ^{NAS} **Romans 5:5** and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
- ^{NAS} **1 Corinthians 3:16** Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
- ^{NIV} **2 Corinthians 1:22** [God] set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.
- ^{NAS} **Galatians 4:6** And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
- ^{NAS} **Galatians 5:22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love ...
- ^{NAS} **1 John 4:13** By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.



Applications

Seek the Spirit

- **NAS Luke 11:9** "And I say to you, ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. ¹⁰ "For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it shall be opened. ¹¹ "Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? ¹² "Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? ¹³ "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"
- **NAS John 4:10** Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

Abide in the Word

- ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 3:14** You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them; ¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Diligent with the Word

- ^{NAS} **Deuteronomy 6:6** "And these words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; ⁷ and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. ⁸ "And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. ⁹ "And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
- ^{NAS} **Joshua 1:8** "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.



Conclusions

Abiding Spirit and Word

- ^{NAS} **Ephesians 5:17** So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ ... but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;
- ^{NAS} **Colossians 3:16** Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
- ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 1:13** Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.