

ye shall abide in Him. I John, ii, 27. And hereby we know that He abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us. I John iii, 24. Now we have received, not the Spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God, that we *might know* the things that are freely given to us of God. I Cor. ii, 12.

Added to this witness of the Holy Ghost, is the *testimony* of his own conscience or his own spirit, that he is fully saved from all sin. The christian knows this because he brings forth the fruits of the spirit in their perfectness. As soon as possible, after the Holy Ghost, has borne His testimony to the soul that the work is accomplished; his own consciousness will assure him that the work is done. Thus these two testimonies blend. They form one grand, clear light. For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world. II Cor. i, 12. His freedom from all inward and outward sin will prove it to a demonstration. His life has become just what the Bible says it should be—peaceful and joyous and thankful; in a word, he has become fully transformed by the renewing of his mind, so that he now lives entirely to God. When this state of the religious life within him is reached, he cannot, will not doubt that God has given to him the great desire of his heart—a perfect salvation. Now his efforts to do good unto all those with whom he has any intercourse will be bounded only by his ability and opportunity. At the same time he will be abased in his own eyes; for perfect humility has taken possession of his soul. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. Gal. v, 22, 23. Now: with the assurance of this two-fold testimony—the witness of the Holy Spirit, and that of his own spirit—the sanctified believer may sing with the poet:—

“Cheer’d by a witness so Divine,
Unwavering I believe;
And ‘Abba, Father,’ humbly cry;
Nor can the sign deceive.”

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