

A large, faint outline of the Greek letters Alpha (Α), Omega (Ω), and a cross (✝) is centered on the page. The Alpha is on the left, the Omega is on the right, and the cross is in the middle, overlapping the text.

# John 5D

Witnesses to the Apostle Jesus



# Outline of John 5 “Mini Trial”

- I. Statement of Facts vs 1-15
- II. Statement of Charges vs 16-18
- III. Statement of Defense vs 19-31
- IV. Statements of Witnesses vs 32- 40
- V. Statement of Counter Suit vs 40-47



# John 5:32-47

## Statement of Witnesses

Apostello

Pempo

- <sup>31</sup> “If I *alone* testify about Myself, My testimony is not true.
- **Witness of the Holy Spirit**
- <sup>32</sup> There is another who **testifies** of Me, and I know that the **testimony** which He gives about Me is true.
- **Witness of John**
- <sup>33</sup> You **have sent** to John, and he has **testified** to the truth. <sup>34</sup> But the **testimony** which I receive is not from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. <sup>35</sup> He was the lamp that was burning and was shining and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.
- **Witness of Works**
- <sup>36</sup> But the **testimony** which I have is greater than **the testimony of** John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—**testify** about Me, that the Father **has sent** Me.
- **Witness of the Father**
- <sup>37</sup> And the Father who **sent** Me, He has **testified** of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form. <sup>38</sup> You do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He **sent**.
- **Witness of the Scripture**
- <sup>39</sup> You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that **testify** about Me; <sup>40</sup> and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life. <sup>41</sup> I do not receive glory from men; <sup>42</sup> but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves. <sup>43</sup> I have come in My Father’s name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him. <sup>44</sup> How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the *one and only* God? <sup>45</sup> 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. <sup>46</sup> For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me. <sup>47</sup> But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?”



# List of Witnesses

- Principle of the Law:
  - Minimum of Two Witnesses Required
    - Deut 17:6; 19:15
    - Nb 35:30;
- [Jesus]
- Another [of the same kind - Holy Spirit]
- John the Baptist
- Works of Jesus
- Father
- Scripture [including Moses]
- Important Note: Jews did not/do not believe there is a Trinity – God with many names, even Father, but not the Trinity



# Witness: Holy Spirit

- “Allo” = Another of the same kind
- Most Commentators say this “other of the same kind” witness is God the Father, but the Father is called as a witness further down in the passage
- John 14:16: Another “allo” of the same kind Paraclete = Holy Spirit
- Ministry of the Holy Spirit in Old Testament Scripture
  - Is 11:2-3; 42:1\* compared with Matt 12:18\*
- Holy Spirit was given without measure to humanity of Jesus Christ Jn 3:34
- Holy Spirit in relationship to the baptism of the Holy Spirit Matt 3:16
- Holy Spirit in relationship to the ministry of Jesus Christ (i.e. miracles) Matt 12:18; 12:28-29; Lk 4:17-21
- Rejection
  - “The Jews” are unbelieving
  - Miracles performed through power of the Holy Spirit are rejected



# Witness: John the Baptist

- John was a messenger
- His message:
  - Behold the Lamb of God Jn 1:29
  - Repent (Change your mind) Matt 3:2
  - Believe on Jesus Christ for salvation Acts 19:4\*
  - He must increase, I must decrease (Occupation with Christ) Jn 3:30
  - He who believes in the Son has eternal life Jn 3:36\*
- Rejection
  - They basked in John's light for a while, but never believed
  - They did not defend John the Baptist when he was arrested
  - No repentance (change of mind); no faith



# Witness: Works of Jesus Christ

- Credentials of an Apostle (details later)
- Rejection
  - Repeated rejections of Jesus' miracles
  - They know Jesus has come from God, but they cannot reconcile this with their own self-righteous religious views. Nicodemus said (Jn 3:2):  
“Rabbi, we know that You have come from God *as* a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”



# Witness: God the Father

- The Father is fully represented by Jesus Christ (as the Father's apostle)
- John 1:18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.
- John 5:37 You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form.
- Rejection: John 5:38 You do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He sent.





# Witness: The Scripture

- You search the scriptures
- D. A. Carson: The verb rendered 'diligently study' corresponds to the Hebrew verb *daras*, a technical term used to refer to their study and exposition of the Bible and of 'oral Torah', the body of oral traditions that had also come down to them. But Jesus points out that their primary motivation in such diligent study was the hope of final acceptance by God: *you think that by them you possess eternal life*. Certainly there is ample external evidence that supports this reading of Jewish motivation: e.g. Hillel affirms that the more study of the law, the more life, and that if a man gains for himself words of the law he has gained for himself life in the world to come (*Pirke Aboth 2:7*) p263
- Rejection:
  - They put a "fence" around the Law
  - Misinterpreted the Law
  - Led to Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

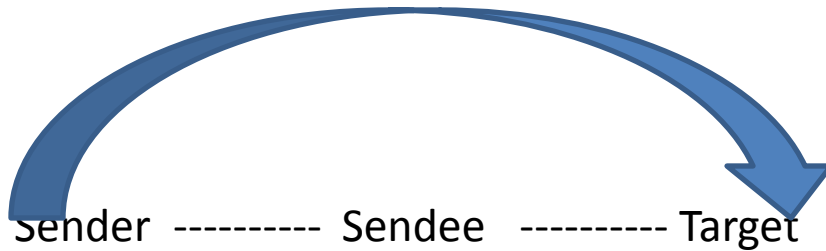
# Detour: Jesus as Apostle of the Father



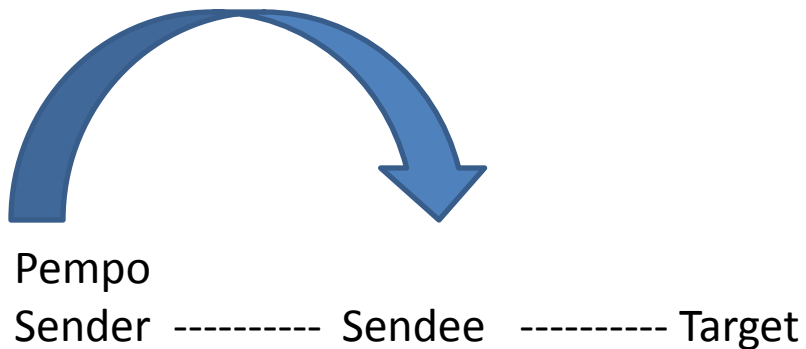
- The Father sent (apostello) the Son in verse 36
- Also note Heb 3:1
  - Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession;
- Apostello & Pempo are “dueling words” in this passage

# Relationship Emphasis

## Apostello



## Pemppo





# Classical Conservative Approach

- See Handout

<http://www.versebyverse.org/doctrine/apostleship.html>

I. → **Break vocabulary** ¶  
 A. → The noun *apostolos*, *apostolos* (apostle), occurs 80x in the New Testament (NT). ¶  
 1. → It is a compound from *apō*, *apō* (from), and *stōlos*, *stēlos* (send). ¶  
 2. → The cognate verb is *apostolōs*, *apostolōs* (send out). ¶  
 3. → The noun *apostolōs*, *apostolōs* (apostleship) occurs 4x in the NT. ¶  
 B. → The term *apostle* is used in two ways in the NT. ¶  
 1. → It is used in the strict sense of the twelve men who had the actual gift of apostleship. ¶  
 2. → It is used of men who were directly associated with an apostle in their ministry but were not one of the twelve, Act. 14:14, Gal. 1:19. ¶

II. → **The original twelve.** ¶  
 A. → The roster includes these men that Jesus, Himself, chose from among His disciples, Mt. 10:24; Mk. 3:14; Lk. 6:13-17. ¶  
 1. → Simon *Peter*, nicknamed "Peter" by Jesus in Mt. 16:18. ¶  
 2. → Andrew, Peter's brother. ¶  
 3. → James, John's brother and the first apostle to be martyred. ¶  
 4. → John, called "the beloved" and the author of the fourth gospel. ¶  
 5. → Philip. ¶  
 6. → Bartholomew, who has been identified with Nathaniel of Cana. ¶  
 7. → Thomas. ¶  
 8. → Matthew, a tax collector and author of the first gospel. ¶  
 9. → James, second of two apostles with this name. ¶  
 10. → *Jude*, also known as Judas in Lk. 6:16. ¶  
 11. → Simon, the Zealot. ¶  
 12. → Judas Iscariot, an unbeliever. ¶  
 B. → During Jesus' earthly ministry, they were apostles to Israel. ¶  
 1. → Jesus Himself was sent only to Israel, Mt. 15:24. ¶  
 2. → He sent them out to evangelize the Jews as part of their training, Lk. 9:1-10. ¶  
 3. → Later, they received a spiritual gift and became apostles to the Church, 1Cor. 12:28. ¶

III. → **Paul was Judas' replacement, not Matthias.** ¶  
 A. → The selection of Matthias in the upper room on Pentecost failed to take into consideration the fact that an apostle had to be someone handpicked by the Lord Himself. Matthias had been with the Lord during His public ministry and was an eyewitness of the resurrected Christ, but was not directly selected by Jesus, Act. 1:15-26. ¶  
 B. → Paul received individual training in Arabia for two years, Gal. 1:17. ¶  
 C. → Finally, there are only twelve names on the foundation stones of the New Jerusalem, Rev. 21:14. ¶

IV. → **Characteristics of the apostles to the Church.** ¶  
 A. → Apostleship is a spiritual gift given by the risen Christ to certain men, Eph. 4:11. ¶  
 B. → Apostles possessed temporary and spectacular gifts like: ¶  
 1. → Tongues, 1Cor. 14:18. ¶

¶

<http://www.versebyverse.org/doctrine/apostleship.html>

2. → Healing, Act. 5:12,15; 19:11,12. ¶  
 3. → Miracles, 2Cor. 12:12. ¶  
 C. → They established the first churches and had jurisdiction over more than one congregation, 2Cor. 11:23. ¶  
 D. → They wrote the NT canon of Scripture or were closely associated with those who wrote (Mark, Luke, Acts, Hebrews, James and Jude). ¶  
 E. → Those who figure predominantly in the NT are Paul, Peter, and John. ¶  
 F. → They were allowed to have wives and families, 1Cor. 9:5. ¶

V. → **Paul's apostleship.** ¶  
 A. → He considered himself to be the least deserving, 1Cor. 15:9; cp. Rm. 1:5. ¶  
 B. → He did not consider himself to be in any way inferior to the most prominent apostles, 2Cor. 11:5. ¶  
 C. → He acknowledged Peter and the rest, Gal. 1:17-19; 2:8, as Peter did him, 2Pet. 3:15,16. ¶  
 D. → He submitted his gospel to the apostles in Jerusalem, Gal. 2:2. ¶  
 E. → His primary target group was the gentiles and their leaders, Gal. 2:7,8; Act. 9:15. ¶  
 F. → In certain ways, he excelled over the others. ¶  
 1. → In sheer workload, 1Cor. 15:8-10. ¶  
 2. → In the exercise of the temporary gifts, 1Cor. 14:18. ¶  
 3. → In suffering, Act. 9:16; 1Tim. 1:16. ¶  
 4. → In revelation of doctrine, Eph. 3:2-13 (books in the canon). ¶

VI. → **Pseudo apostles in the NT.** ¶  
 A. → Simon Magus attempted to buy with money an apostleship, Act. 8:24. ¶  
 B. → Certain individuals claimed to be Paul's equal as Corinth, but were cast as impostors, 2Cor. 11:12-15. ¶  
 C. → The Ephesian church removed those who made apostolic claims, Rev. 2:2. ¶  
 D. → There are those who make claims of apostleship today (the Pope, head of the Great Whore of Rev. 17). ¶

VII. → **Jesus is designated the "Apostle and High Priest of our confession",** Heb. 3:1. He proved Himself to be the faithful envoy of the One who sent Him. ¶

VIII. → **Our attitude towards the apostles is stated in 2Pet. 3:2H, Jd. 1:23.** ¶

¶



# Apostle Characteristics from “Kittel”

- Appointed face-to-face
- Authorized/commissioned representative
- Plenipotentiary
- Representative in absence of the one represented
- Involves travel (usually sea travel)
- Credentials
- Purpose: establish colony; make decisions; lead troops into battle
- Messenger
- Man (not a woman)
- Accomplish a specific task. Used of military expeditions, colonists, commander of an expedition.



# Characteristics of an Apostle

- Dependence on the Sender
- Authority of the Sender
- Full Representation
- Purpose & Commission
- Credentials
- Travel
- [compilation of sources: Kittel, Thieme, Bolender]



# Apostles to the Church

- Dependent on the Sender: Jesus Christ
- Full Representation
- Purpose & Commission
  - Peter is the Apostle to the Jews
  - Paul is the Apostle to the Gentiles
  - Start Local Churches
  - Write New Testament Scriptures
  - Provide Spiritual Guidance
- Credentials - Miracles
- Travel



# “Delegated” Apostles

- Apostles of Apostles





# Jesus: Apostle of Salvation

- Dependent on the Sender: God the Father
- Full Representation:
  - Jn 1:8
- Purpose & Commission:
  - Jn 3:17
- Credentials:
  - Jn 3:2 ...“Rabbi, we know that You have come from God *as* a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” ...
  - John 5
- Response to Full Representation:
  - Positive John 1:
  - Negative John 5
- Travel
  - Jn 1:
  - Jn 3:13 No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man.
  - The Judean ministry & Galilean ministries



# Jesus: Apostle of Judgment?

- Revelation