

Dear FBC family,

I have always striven to be honest with you about Truth as such. I do not believe in telling believers things just to make them feel better. I do not believe in withholding things from believers because it might be unsettling.

With this in mind, you should know that 1 John 5:7 is not part of God's Word and should never have been put in the Bible. Better that you hear this from me when you have the opportunity to get an explanation than be caught flatfooted and unprepared by a critic of the Bible.

The King James: *1 John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.*

The NIV: *1 John 5:7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.*

The NASB actually *omits it* but puts the first part of verse 8 in verse 7. I guess they did not want to skip a verse.

For a quick explanation, see [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JulqQ-cV8GQ&feature=player\\_detailpage](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JulqQ-cV8GQ&feature=player_detailpage)

Recently, I received an e-mail from a believer who expressed to me her enormous joy that she was experiencing through the enlightenment she was receiving by *personally* reading and rereading 1-2 Thessalonians. Her ability to get to those ultimate metaphysical realities (like, faith, hope, and love) and enjoy them for herself was such an encouragement to me—this is what I, as pastor, am after: help believers reach and thus enjoy those metaphysical realities beyond nominalism (words and word definitions)—to get believers really connected with God's Marvelous Truth, directly and personally, without dependence upon a pastor.

As you read and reread your Bibles *daily* to get to those truths that the original languages *by themselves* cannot get to, I wanted to make sure that you know that 1 John 5:7 is not part of the Word of God. It was a comment by a scribe who wrote in the margin that ended up in the text. However, this passage makes absolutely no difference to the rest of the Word of God. Yes, you can be confident that your Bible is the Word of God even though this verse is in it. We will go into all of the rational reasons the Bible proves to be 100% the Word of God in the original autographs and why the copies are trustworthy when we get to Bibliology—by the way it is because we have so many copies that we know that 1 John 5:7 is not part of the Word of God.

***Blessed***

**Pastor Don Hargrove**