



## Witness Word Study from BibleProject

The word “witness” probably makes you think of someone testifying in a courtroom. Or if you’re in a religious context, perhaps you think of someone sharing their testimony or persuading others about their faith. These ideas are similar to what we find in the biblical text, but the word and theme of witness tell a much bigger story. That’s what our Witness Word Study video is all about. These Video Notes will point you in the right direction as you explore for yourself how this important word functions in Scripture.



### The Basic Meaning

In the Bible, a witness is someone who sees something amazing or important. If this person begins to share what they’ve seen, we call this “bearing witness.”



In the Hebrew Bible, or Old Testament, the nouns often translated as witness occur 201 times, in the forms of עדוּת (eidut), עֵד (eid), עֵדָה (eidah), and תְּעִידָה (tei’uda). When these words refer to a person, they mean “someone who sees or experiences something.” When they refer to something, it means “testimony” or “evidence.” It also occurs as a verb—עוּד (uwd)—most often meaning “to bear witness” or “share about what one has seen or experienced.”

In Greek, the word (with its compound forms) occurs 207 times. The noun is μάρτυς (mártus), meaning “a witness,” and the verb is μαρτυρέω (marturéō), meaning “to bear witness.”

For the rest of the Word study, check out the QR code!