GS 83096 06-25-1983
WHAT IS YOUR CHRISTIAN PROOF OF PURCHASE? Morton, IL

INTRODUCTION.

A. Scripture text: **Romans 8:16**.
B. This lesson is to be delivered at the Morton Church of Christ Youth Rally.
C. The Bible says we were bought with a price, this was the life and blood of Jesus (1Cor 6:19).
D. But how is the world to know we are a Christians? What proof are we to give to show that we have been purchased by the blood of the Lamb?
E. This lesson hopes to answer those two questions.

I. **FIRST, KNOW YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN.**

A. A Christian is a child of God
B. We must look at a difficult passage to know we are a child of God (Rom. 8:16).
C. The HS bears witness because:
   1. He has given us God's word.
   2. He has shown us the plan of salvation.
   3. He has given us the way to be faithful to God.

   The HS has done His part in saying we are the children of God (our proof of purchase).
D. The Spirit dwells in all Christians and we receive the Spirit by baptism (Rom. 8:9,11; Ac. 2:38).
E. Our spirit must do its part to be sure we are children of God. This becomes our proof of purchase. We do it:
   1. By getting it in writing.
   2. Living what we read.
   3. Sharing with others.

II. **OUR SPIRIT MUST GET IT IN WRITING.**

A. The Apostle Paul when he was Saul of Tarsus went to the high priests to get in writing those things needed to carry out "God's will".
   1. Example trying to return Sear's electric blanket.
   2. Example of crazy man with a letter.
B. Man's word is not good any more, we must have it in writing.
C. Let us not look for our salvation in men, but in the word of God.

III. **OUR SPIRIT MUST LIVE WHAT WE READ.**

A. Story of man at Niagara Falls, a tightrope, and a wheel barrow. No one had the faith, because no one would get in.
B. When it comes to:
   1. Attending Sunday PM worship.
   2. Attending Wednesday PM worship.
   3. Praying to God every day.
   4. Being a good sister or brother.
   5. Being a good son or daughter.

   ...GET IN THE WHEEL BARROW!
C. Jesus said to let our light shine before men so that we glorify God in heaven. Be sure our faith is more than just believing God exists (Mt. 5:16).
D. Remember, faith without works is dead. Satan believes in God, and shudders, his faith is not one of works to please God (Jas. 2:19).

IV. **OUR SPIRIT MUST SHARE WITH OTHERS.**

A. When we've got something this good, we will share it with others.
B. If we shared Jesus as fast as we share rumors and gossip we would have this town covered by sundown.
C. Let me start two rumors:
    1. Bill Clary is so dumb he can't spell MGM backwards.
    2. Bill Clary is so dumb he spells relief, R-O-L-A-I-D-S.
D. The good news of JC is so much more important but we don't share it nearly often enough.
E. We also must share in benevolent needs as well (Mt. 25:31-46).

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

A. We have seen that our Christian proof of purchase depend on 2 things:
    1. The witness of the Holy Spirit.
    2. The witness of our spirit.
B. The HS has done His job, .it is up to us to prove we are the children of God by:
    1. Get our salvation in writing.
    2. Live what we read.
    3. Share our wealth and gospel with others.
C. Then the world will know (and God) that we truly are purchased by Christ. The proof will be a life conformed to God's pattern.
D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.