

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Romans 8:16-17**.
- B. The HS plays a part in our salvation.
- C. The HS is the author of the word of God. The Spirit gives testimony, or bears witness, by the word of God (Jn. 16:12-13; 2Tim. 3:16-17).
(Jn 16:12-13) "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. 13 But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
(2Tim 3:16-17) All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
- D. We have the right to be called the children of God when the testimony of our spirit agrees with the testimony of God's Spirit.

I. WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT BEAR WITNESS TO?

- A. First, the Spirit says the world is in sin (Jn. 3:17; Rom. 3:10).
(Jn 3:17) For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.
(Rom 3:10) as it is written,
"THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;
- B. Second, the Spirit says that Jesus is the Christ:
 - 1. He is the promised Messiah (Lk. 1:31-33).
And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; 33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."
 - 2. He has come to earth (Lk. 2:10-12).
But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; 11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 This *will be* a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."
 - 3. He died, was buried, and then resurrected (1Cor. 15:1-4).
Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.
3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,
 - 4. He ascended back into heaven (Ac. 1:9).
And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.
- C. Third, the Spirit says how one gets to heaven (be saved).
 - 1. The initial steps (hear, believe, repent, confess, and be baptized).
 - 2. Remaining faithful (Rev. 2:10).
Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
- D. Fourth, the Spirit says how to act as a Xian.
 - 1. Daily living (Rom. 12:1-2; see 12:9-21).
Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.
 - 2. The Xian graces (2Pet. 1:5-10).
Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your

moral excellence, knowledge, **6** and in *your* knowledge, self-control, and in *your* self-control, perseverance, and in *your* perseverance, godliness, **7** and in *your* godliness, brotherly kindness, and in *your* brotherly kindness, love. **8** For if these *qualities* are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** For he who lacks these *qualities* is blind *or* short-sighted, having forgotten *his* purification from his former sins. **10** Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

3. How to be better in our families (see Eph. 5:22-6:4).

4. How to serve as workers and employers (Eph. 6:5-9).

Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; **6** not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. **7** With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, **8** knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

9 And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

E. Fifth, the Spirit says how to act in the church.

1. There should be no divisions (1Cor. 1:10).

Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

2. All should sing, eat the LS, encourage one another (Col. 3:16; 1Cor. 11:23-26; Heb. 10:24-25).

(Col 3:16) Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

(1Cor 11:23-26) For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; **24** and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." **25** In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

(Heb 10:24-25) and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, **25** not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

II. WHAT OUR SPIRIT SHOULD BEAR WITNESS TO.

A. Our spirit must bear witness to the same things if we want to be pleasing to God.

B. Some parallels with the above--we must admit:

1. That the world (we individually) is in sin.

2. That Jesus is the Christ.

3. How to get to heaven, (God's plan of salvation for all people).

4. How to act as a Xian (to walk in the light).

5. How to act in the church (things done in spirit and truth).

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

A. The question is simple: Does your spirit agree with God's spirit?

B. If your thinking and lifestyle matches the testimony of the Spirit you can be called a child of God.

C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.