INTRODUCTION
1. This lesson could be called "Evidence of Pardon".
2. There is a need in all of our lives for CONFIDENCE and ASSURANCE.
3. We all need assurance that we are saved and pleasing to God.
4. Man's condition before God -- He is a sinner because he has violated God's law -- I John 3:4; Rom. 3:23; Gal. 3:22.
5. The penalty of sin is DEATH -- Rom. 6:23; Gen. 2:17; Ezek. 18:4.
6. God, by His grace, has made provision to pardon man from his sins through the shed blood of His Son -- John 3:16; I Cor. 15:3.
8. Evidence that one has been pardoned must come from God -- Rom 8:16.
9. What we want to study in this lesson is HOW the Spirit bears witness with man's spirit.

I. SOME PEOPLE'S EVIDENCE THAT THEY ARE SAVED IS UNRELIABLE TESTIMONY.
1. Some say they had an "experience" -- "direct operation of the Holy Spirit":
   (1) Some claim they heard a "voice".
   (2) Some say they had a "dream" -- Jer. 23: 25 - 28.
   (3) Some claim they saw "lights" -- Acts 9:3.
   (4) Some say they saw "angels" -- Acts 10:3.
2. Some depend upon "feelings".
3. Some rely on "faith only" -- James 2:24.
5. Some rely on "what they think" -- Naaman did -- 2 Kings 5:11.

II. GOD HAS GIVEN EVIDENCE THAT IS STABLE TESTIMONY
1. This means of obtaining this confidence with God is revealed in Romans 8:16.
2. This divine assurance results from a "DUAL WITNESS":
   (1) The witness of the SPIRIT OF GOD
   (2) The witness of MAN'S SPIRIT.
3. Both parts of this two-fold testimony must take place if we are to have real assurance.
4. The Holy Spirit and Man's Spirit are to bear JOINT TESTIMONY -- Rom. 8:16 - 17.
   (1) "In the Word of two or three witnesses let every word be established" -- Matt. 18:16; Deut. 19:15; I Tim. 5:19.
   (2) The need of joint testimony is necessary, as one might misrepresent the truth.
5. The Holy Spirit bears witness WITH man's spirit, not TO his spirit.
   (1) The difference between "with" and "to" -- illustrated: I am talking to you now -- after service I will be talking with you.
6. Sectarians think that the Holy Spirit gives witness to man's spirit in some mysterious way, directly.
7. The Bible way is a reasonable way -- God's Spirit and Man's Spirit.

III. HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT BEARS WITNESS AND GIVES TESTIMONY:
1. The Spirit bears witness and gives testimony by REVELATION.
   (1) John 15:26; John 5:39
   (2) Heb. 10: 15 - 17
2. The Holy Spirit gives His testimony through the APOSTLES and INSPIRED MEN -- John 16:13; Eph. 3:3 - 5

IV. THE SPIRIT OF GOD’S TESTIMONY AND THE SPIRIT OF MAN’S TESTIMONY ON OBEDIENCE TO THE GOSPEL:
1. The SPIRIT’S TESTIMONY: Man must believe -- Mk. 16:16
   (1) MAN’S TESTIMONY: Man does believe.
2. The SPIRIT’S TESTIMONY: Man must repent -- Acts 2:38
   (1) MAN has repented.
3. The SPIRIT’S TESTIMONY: Man must confess -- Rom. 10:10
   (1) MAN has confessed.
4. The SPIRIT’S TESTIMONY: Man must be baptized -- Mk. 16:16
   (1) MAN has been baptized to be saved.

V. THE HOLY SPIRIT’S TESTIMONY AND MAN’S TESTIMONY ON LIVING A GODLY LIFE:
1. The SPIRIT says man must deny ungodliness and worldly lust -- Tit. 2:11-12
   (1) MAN must be denying ungodliness and worldly lust.
2. The SPIRIT says "walk by faith" -- 2 Cor. 5:7.
   (1) MAN must be walking by faith.
3. The SPIRIT says "worship in spirit and in truth" -- John 4:24
   (1) MAN must be worshipping in spirit and in truth.
4. The SPIRIT says "add to faith virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love" -- II Pet. 1: 5 - 10
   (1) MAN must be giving diligence to add these things.
5. The SPIRIT says "not forsaking the assemblies" -- Heb. 10:25.
   (1) MAN must say he has not.
6. The SPIRIT says "a man must strive to avoid sinning" -- Eph. 4:26; I John 2:1; I John 3:9; Rom. 6:12; I Cor. 15:34
   (1) MAN must strive to avoid sinning.
7. The SPIRIT says "walk in love" -- Eph. 5:2.
   (1) MAN must walk in love.
8. The SPIRIT says man must repent, confess his sins, and pray when he sins -- Acts 8:22; I John 1:9.
   (1) MAN must repent and confess his sins and pray.
CONCLUSION

1. When MAN'S SPIRIT can bear witness with the HOLY SPIRIT that he has done what the Spirit requires, MAN can have confidence he is saved -- 2 Tim. 4: 6 - 8; Heb. 10:35; I Pet. 1: 6, 9; 2 Cor. 13:5.

2. Friends, do you have evidence from the word of God that you are a child of God?

3. If you are here and subject to the gospel invitation, won't you come?