

## **WHEN THE MORTGAGE IS PAID, WHAT DO YOU HAVE?**

(2 Cor. 4:16-5:5)

### **Introduction:**

1. Oh, the joys of home ownership. You empty your bank account for the downpayment, you tie yourself to a monthly house payment, and the second it's yours it begins to fall apart.
2. There is a mortgage deal, however, that has better terms and yields a better final product. There is a habitation being prepared for you by Jesus, let us consider the deal.
3. Let us look at the process, the payments and the profits of this heavenly deal offered by God through His Son Jesus the Christ.

### **Discussion:**

#### **I. The process** (contrasting heavenly versus earthly: mansion, fellowship, joy).

- A. The process begins with a problem we have.
  1. In our physical life we desire to buy a home because we have a problem, when it rains we get wet, when it is cold we freeze. We need shelter.
  2. In our spiritual life we have problems as well.
    - a. Our sin has separated us from God (Is. 59:1, 2).
    - b. Sin has unleashed all kinds of strife and pain into the world (Gal. 5:19-21; Rom. 5:12; 6:23; 7:9; Jas. 1:13-15).
- B. The process of solving our problems is only found in the Gospel.
  1. In our physical life when buying a home most of us will go to a bank to inquire about a loan, we don't go to the nearby ice cream shack.
  2. In our spiritual life, if we want to solve our problems that stem from our improper relationship with God we go to God's Word as found in the pages of the Bible (1 Cor. 2).
- C. The process is simple and easily understood by those who truly desire the solution.
  1. This is not the case in our physical life where lawyer-ese has made most legal transactions as easy to understand as Sanskrit.
  2. But the Gospel message of the New Testament is straightforward and written in plain language (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Rom. 10:10, 16, 17; Luke 9:23; 2 Cor. 5:1-4).

#### **II. The payments** (your life and stewardship).

- A. There is a downpayment that is required.
  1. In our physical life the downpayment on a home is a painful economic bullet to be bitten.
  2. In our spiritual life the downpayment is even more painful.
    - a. The downpayment is a broken and contrite heart (Ps. 51:17; Is. 57:15; Matt. 5:3, 4).
    - b. The downpayment is a death to ourselves in order to live for Christ (Rom. 6:3ff; 2 Cor. 5:14ff; Gal. 2:20).
- B. And there are payments that follow.
  1. In our physical life we must make monthly payments to maintain possession of our home.
  2. So too, in our spiritual life. We must pay every second of every day (Rom. 12:1-2; 1 John 1:7-9; Col. 3:17; Rev. 2:10).

#### **III. The profits** (the ultimate result of our purchase).

- A. In our physical life, when you have paid off your mortgage you hold a little celebration, but what you know own outright is slowly (hopefully) crumbling into dust.
- B. In our spiritual life, the mortgage is not paid off until we make our final payment of the return of the gift of life; but we will possess ever so much more than a house on some property.
  1. We will inhabit the holy city of God (Rev. 21).
  2. We will possess the crown of life and sit upon the throne of God (Rev. 2:10; 3:21).
  3. We will take possession of our inheritance, incorruptible, undefiled, and that does not fade away in heaven (1 Pet. 1:4).

### **Conclusion:**

1. So, where will you place your focus in this life? On the things that only pertain to the physical or on the spiritual?
2. Which "mortgage" will receive your main attention? Which one will you serve?
3. Invitation.