



Glass Bottles

Romans 3:24 - and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

I grew up by the grocery store, Buchanan's, on 89th and Penn (OKC). It was one of only two grocery stores that I knew about (the other was AMC somewhere closer to downtown). We always went to that Buchanan's. There was nothing too "wow" about it. Just a friendly neighborhood store. I even met Jack, the owner a time or two.

ANYWAYS...

Like most kids before Nintendo and iPhone, I was outside from sun up to sundown. I had too much energy to stay inside. If I wasn't riding my bike, I was pretending I was a soldier or playing some kind of sport with my friends in the street. That was life in the mid 70's and early 80's. We sweat more and showered less. We had more physical activity and less sore muscles. Ahh, what a life!

One day, Mike Moody and I found a bunch of glass bottles in the creek (a dried up area where usually there was some rain runoff, and some great bike jumps too). When I say we found some bottles, I mean we found like 15 bottles. They must have been there for several storms. Most of them had dried mud inside and out. Some were broken so we didn't touch them. But all in all, I bet we got 12 decent, yet worthless bottles. Why? Because on the side up by the neck they said, "redeemable."

We put them in a wagon and pulled them what seemed forever to Buchanan's. In reality it was only a few blocks. Like typical little kids we pulled the wagon right through the automatic doors and to the place where my mom would cash her checks. What happened next was a miracle.

A lady walked around and looked at these old, nasty, dirty bottles and gave us about 28 cents. We were so excited. We almost felt like we ripped them off. Money for worthless bottles. That's crazy!!

No. That's the cross. That's Jesus. That's Easter.

You're redeemed.

From My Heart,

Billy