

“Liberty!”
Galatians 5:1

Introduction:

1. Liberty & Freedom Is Something That Americans Treasure!
 - Sometimes More Than Life Itself!
 - That Is What The Red Stripes Represent On The American Flag!
 - The Blood Of The Thousands Of Lives That Were Lost In Order To Produce & Preserve Our Liberty!
 - So We Think We Have A Pretty Good Understanding Of Freedom & Liberty!
2. The Romans Also Thought They Had A Pretty Good Understanding Of Freedom & Liberty!
 - Roman Citizens Had Tremendous Freedom In Those Ancient Times!
 - See This Even In The Life Of The Apostle Paul!
 - And Many In The Galatian Churches That Paul Writes To Would Have Been Roman Citizens!
 - And Had Freedom & Liberty Along With It!
3. Imagine What These Freedom Possessing & Freedom Loving People Would Have Thought When Paul Tells Them:
 - Galatians 5:1 - “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage!”
 - Bondage? Yoke? Entangled? Unfamiliar Words To People Who Are Free!
 - Or What About The Jews To Whom Jesus Spoke Must Have Thought When He Told Them:
 - John 8:32 - “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free!”
 - Listen To Their Answer:
 - John 8:33 - “They answered him, We be Abraham’s seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?”
4. Those Who Are Free Have A Hard Time Understanding Slavery & Bondage!
 - Especially The Slavery & Bondage Of Sin!
 - Because THIS Is The Yoke That Both Jesus & Paul Were Speaking Of! Jesus Continued:
 - John 8:34,36 - “Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. [And] If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!”
5. We May Be Free!
 - Politically / Physically / Personally!
 - But Without The Lord Jesus Christ, We Are Slaves Spiritually!
 - And We Are Slaves To Sin!
 - But Through The Lord Jesus Christ, We Can Have Real Liberty!
 - There Are 3 Shackles Of The Soul That Jesus Christ Alone Can Release Us From & Give Us Liberty!

* The First Shackle Of The Soul:

1. *The Power Of Sin!*

- Every Person Is In Bondage To Sin!
 - No Matter How “Free” They Feel Or Think They Are!
 - They Are Servants Of Sin & To Uncleaness!
 - Doulos - Slaves!
- Genesis 6:5 - Just Before The Flood - “GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually!”
- The Power Of Sin Is Comprehensive!
 - “The Wickedness Of Man Was Great In The Earth!”
 - The Power Of Sin Is Over Everyone! Noone Is Exempt!
- The Power Of Sin Is Complete!
 - “Every Imagination Of The Thoughts Of His Heart!”
 - The Power Of Sin Is Deep! Penetrates Every Part Of The Human - Body / Soul / Spirit!
- The Power Of Sin Is Constant!
 - “Only Evil Continually!
 - Sin Is Not A Temporary Master!
 - Do We Think Things Have Changed Since The Flood?
 - Have We As A Human Race Gotten Our Act Together After Such A Catastrophe As A Universal Flood?

- The Power Of Sin Is Like The Chain Of A Shackle!
 - That Keeps A Person From Being & Doing What God Originally Had For Them!
 - Is There Freedom From This Shackle?
 - Is There Freedom From The Power Of Sin?
- There Is Liberty / Freedom From The Power Of Sin!
 - Romans 6:17-19 - "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. / Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. / I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness!"
- Only A Christian Can Understand Real Liberty!
 - Because Christian Liberty Gives You The Opportunity To Please God!
 - By Being A "Servant Of Righteousness!"
 - Apart From The Lord Jesus, We Can Do Nothing That Is Righteous & Pleasing To Him!
 - But Now, Through Him, We Are Enabled To Be Righteous & Pleasing To Him!
 - This Is Real Liberty!

*The Second Shackle Of The Soul:

2. ***The Professor Of Sin!***

- Galatians 3:23-25 - "But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. / Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith!"
- Every Person Is Also In Bondage To The Law Of God!
 - Whether It Is Written In A Book / Or Written On The Heart!
 - Noone Can Escape The Law Of God!
 - And What It Teaches Us! The Law Of God Is A "Schoolmaster" – A Professor!
 - What Does The Law Of God Teach Us?
- We Are Responsible!
 - To Someone Other Than Us – To God!
 - For Noone Other Than Us – For Ourselves!
 - Why Do You Think There Is Such A Fight In Our Country To: Remove Monuments Of The 10 Commandments / Replace Creation With Evolution!
 - They Don't Want To Be Responsible To Someone Other Than Themselves!
 - But The Law Shows Us We Are Bound To Someone Else!
 - Romans 3:20 - "For by the law is the knowledge of sin!"
- We Are Reviewed!
 - God Will Judge Us Based On His Law!
 - Romans 2:12 - "As many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law!"
 - What Will He Find? As The Lord Told Belshazzar - "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting!" (Daniel 5:27)
- We Are Reprehensible!
 - Guilty! Deserving Of Rebuke & Blame!
 - James 2:10 - "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all!"
- The Professor Of Sin – The Law – Is Another Chain Of Our Shackle!
 - That Keeps Us In Fear & Shame!
 - Is There Freedom From This Shackle?
 - Is There Freedom From The Bondage Of The Law!
 - Which You Could Never Keep?
- There Is Liberty / Freedom From This Professor Of Sin!
 - Romans 8:1-2 - "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. / For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death!"
- Only A Christian Can Understand Real Liberty!
 - Because Christian Liberty Gives You The Opportunity To Love God!
 - And Obey His Laws Out Of Love / Not Fear!
 - John 14:21 - "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth

- me!”
- Through His Power / Not Our Own!
- This Is Real Liberty!

* The Third Shackle Of The Soul:

3. The Penalty Of Sin!

- We All Know What The Penalty Of Sin Is – Death!
- Romans 6:21-23 - “What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. / But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. / For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord!”
- And Every Person Is In Bondage To This Penalty Of Sin!
 - Because Every Person Is Under The Power Of Sin!
 - Because Every Person Is Guilty Of Sin!
 - Therefore Every Person Will Be Punished For Their Sin!
 - Just Look Around For Proof – Cemeteries Are Everywhere!
- A Spiritual Death!
 - A Separation Of From God & His Presence & Fellowship!
 - Ephesians 4:18 - “Being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, cause of the blindness of their heart!”
- A Physical Death!
 - A Separation Of The Soul From The Body!
 - Genesis 3:19 - “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return!”
- Ultimately, An Eternal Death!
 - Revelation 21:8 - “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death!”
- The Penalty Of Sin – Death – Is Another Chain Of Our Shackle!
 - And This Penalty Is Inescapable!
 - Unless There Is Freedom From This Shackle! Is There?
- There Is Liberty / Freedom From The Penalty Of Sin!
 - Romans 6:22-23 - “But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. / For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord!”
- Only A Christian Can Understand Real Liberty!
 - Because Christian Liberty Gives You The Opportunity To Live For God!
 - Now & Into Eternity!

Conclusion:

1. Christian Liberty Is Not The Absence Of Law!
 - Rather, Christian Liberty Is: “The Freedom To Pursue The Law Of Christ!” (Don Johnson)
 - **IE:** Prisoners Have Limited Opportunities, To Say The Least!
 - But Christian Liberty Gives You The Opportunities You Never Had Before!
 - To Please God / Love God / Live For God!
2. This Is Real Liberty!
 - Now – “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage!” (Galatians 5:1)

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