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2  **BORN FOR FREEDOM**

Galatians 5:1

3  **BORN FREE**

- Story of Elsa the Lion
- Joy and George Adamson
- Elsa was born free
- She must be free again

4  **THE BATTLE FOR FREEDOM**

- “. . . Christ has set us free;”
- Revolutionary War
- Civil War
- Battle for Spiritual Freedom
 - **John 8:36: “Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”**
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5  **Hebrews 2:9-10**

- ⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.
¹⁰ For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

6  **Hebrews 2:14-16**

- ¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. ¹⁶ For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

7  **Hebrews 2:17-18**

- ¹⁷ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.* ¹⁸ For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

8  **FREEDOM IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR**

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- March 23, 1775
- “Give me liberty or give me death!”
- Patrick Henry

9  **THE GOAL OF THE BATTLE**

- Revolutionary War
- Civil War
- Freedom in America Today

10  **Goal of Christ’s death**

- Set us free.
- **John 8:32: “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**
- **John 8:36: “Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”**

11  **Paul’s Message in Galatians**

- Galatians 2:4: And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage).”
- Galatians 5:1
- Galatians 5:13

12 THE THREATS TO OUR FREEDOM

- Elsa the lion
- Galatian Christians
- Christians today – Two Threats
 - Legalism
 - License

13 Legalism

- Judaizers at Galatia
- Galatians 1:6
- Galatians 3:1
- Galatians 4:11
- Galatians 4:20-21

14 Legalism in churches today

- Salvation through ritual and sacraments
- Sabbath worship
- Salvation through external acts of baptism and the Lord's Supper
- Evangelical Churches?
 - What they taught: Jesus PLUS

15 Definition of Legalism

- *In Christianity, legalism is the excessive and improper use of the law (Ten commandments, holiness laws, etc). This legalism can take different forms. The first is where a person attempts to keep the Law in order to attain salvation. The second is where a person keeps the law in order to maintain his salvation. The third is when a Christian judges other Christians for not keeping certain codes of conduct that he thinks need to be observed.*

16 Elisabeth Elliot

- *The Liberty of Obedience*
- "Colored clothes, for one thing. Get rid of everything in your wardrobe that is not white. Stop sleeping on a soft pillow. Sell your musical instruments and don't eat any more white bread. You cannot, if you are sincere about obeying Christ, take warm baths or shave your beard. To shave is to lie against Him who created us, to attempt to improve on His work?"

17 Legalism is Subtle

- Galatians 2:4: And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth
- The Camel in the Tent

18 Legalism is Subversive

- Infiltration
- Destruction
-

19 License

- The argument
- The Answer
 - Romans 6:1: What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?"
 - Romans 6:15: "What then? Shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid."

20 Liberty

- The proper exercise of salvation
- Galatians 2:19: "For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God."
- Galatians 5:13: "For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."
- CONCLUSION: "Stand firm"