

**Finding Freedom and Staying Free
Fourth of July 2018**

Galatians 5:1

July 1, 2018

Men & Women have died to make America Free!
But their deaths did not **keep you Free!**

Galatians 5:1 So Christ has **truly set us free**. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery...

Maybe you had a very rough childhood full of abused and ridiculed. And because of your failure to forgive, you remain in bondage and are still living with that pain.

Maybe you worked had a boss who mistreated you and even fired you. But you never have forgiven your first boss. You may be free from him physically, & yet you are not free from him emotionally because you have failed to forgive him. Because of this you are now bitter and angry and have a hard, sad expression.

Maybe you once wrestled with the doctrine of salvation and now you have finally come to know Christ as Savior. You are now free to serve God as a Christian. However, because of a **critical spirit**, which makes you continuously dissatisfied.

The people I have just mentioned are examples of difficulty with which all born again Christians wrestle at one time or another. It is the problem of being set free, but remaining in bondage. The people I just mentioned were free because they were forgiven.

They were free because they were **going to Heaven**, & free because they had **potential victory** over sin. They were free, but they were **still in bondage** to a critical or unforgiving spirit. **Heb 12:15** See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no **root of bitterness** springing up causes trouble, & by it many be defiled

In the Book of Galatians Paul deals with a similar problem. The Galatians, who were **mostly Gentiles** before being saved, were set free from the bondage of sin and the rules and regulations of Gentile religion. But now, they were listening to legalistic false teachers **called Judaizers**, who were teaching the Galatians that they needed to **observe Jewish Old Testament Law** in order to be good Christians. They were trying to bring the Galatians back into bondage.

God has a wonderful plan for the life of every Christian. It is to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in freedom all our days. We are free to do what He wants us to do, when He wants us to do it, and in the way he wants us to do it. We have freedom to do what is right!

However God's Enemy, Satan, wants us to be in bondage to law keeping, to **guilt**, to **un-forgiveness**, to a **critical spirit**, to **anger**, to **worry**, to **habitual sin** of any kind.

The good news is that there is freedom from bondage for the Christian. This freedom is found in Christ.

I. **The Declaration (1a)** So Christ has **really** set us free.

When Paul talks about being free he was talking to those who have **accepted** the free gift of salvation found in Christ.

John 8:36 "So if the Son makes you **free**, you will be **free indeed**."

Misrepresents or **Misquotes** Scripture.

John 8:32 you will **know the truth**, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:31-32 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you **abide in my word**, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

➤ **We are Free from the Penalty of Sin. Rom 8:1-2** Therefore there is now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Rom 6:23 For the **wages of sin** is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

➤ **We are Free from the Problem of Law Keeping. Eph 2:8-9** For by grace you have been **saved** through faith; & that not of yourselves, *it is* the **gift of God**; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

We are not dependent upon law keeping to get to Heaven.

- **We are Free from the Power of sin. Rom 6:14**
For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

No Freedom to sin! Romans 6:1-2 Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? ² **Of course not!** Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it?

- **We are Free from the Presence of sin. 1 John 3:1-2** See how very much our heavenly Father loves us, for he allows us to be called his children, and we really are! But the people who belong to this world don't know God, so they don't understand that we are his children. ² Yes, dear friends, we are already God's children, and we can't even imagine what we will be like when Christ returns. But we do know that when he comes we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is.

II. **That is The Declaration now we see The Danger (1b)** don't get tied up again in slavery to the law. ***NKJ** do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage

- **The Yoke of Legalism.**

Christ had set the Galatians free. But now they were in danger of being entangled or entwined with a yoke.

Someone had entered the fold and was teaching Heresy **Gal 5:7** You were getting along so well. **Who**

has interfered with you to hold you back from following the truth?

When the Galatians tried to add **law-keeping** to their faith in Christ, they were putting on a new yoke of bondage. When a person is trying to keep religious law he is in bondage to detail, trying to keep everything perfectly. He is also in bondage to guilt if he breaks that law.

Essentially Legalism **Opposes Grace!**

Legalism can be defined as expecting everyone else to hold to a **personal conviction** that you have.

➤ **Examples of Legalism:**

There is a better yoke than the yoke of bondage. **There is the yoke of Christ. Matt 11:28-29** Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 **Take my yoke upon you.** Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light."

Allow Christ to control you through His Spirit.

III. **We have Seen the Declaration** & **the Danger** now we see **The Deliverance (1c)** Now make sure that **you stay free**

➤ **Deliverance comes By Faith** **Romans 5:1**
Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

➤ **Deliverance Comes By the Work of the Spirit of God** **John 16:8-11** And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. ⁹ The world's sin is that it **refuses to believe in me.** ¹⁰ Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. ¹¹ Judgment will come because the ruler of this world **has already been judged.**

➤ **Deliverance Comes To Keep us and Empower us.** **Eph 1:13-14** And now you also have heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. ¹⁴ The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us everything he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. This is just one more reason for us to praise our glorious God.

Galatians 5:16 & 22 So I advise you to live according to your new life in the Holy Spirit. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. **(22)** But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, **he will produce** this kind of **fruit** in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law.

We are delivered from bondage as we stand fast in the same original liberty that set us free in Christ! As we stand fast in the control of the Holy Spirit we will be delivered from bondage in our daily lives.

Praise Team Takes The Platform