

F R E E D O M

It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.

(Galatians 5:1)

Now this is Good News! We all like freedom!

True freedom can be found only in Jesus Christ.

What are we free from in Christ Jesus? Good question! The Jews asked the same question, when told by Jesus that the truth will set them free. Their response was that they had never been enslaved to anyone. Jesus explained that everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin (John 8:32–34). Sin is what separated people from God, what kept them under the wrath, “for wages of sin is death.” The Cross and the Resurrection freed us from sin, from the law of sin and of death.

For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection,

knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin;

for he who has died is freed from sin.

Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.

For the death that He died, He died to sin, once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

(Romans 6:5–11)

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

(Romans 8:2)

The sin issue was dealt with on the cross when a righteous and just God condemned sin and executed the penalty for sin—death. Jesus died in our place to pay for our sins. He was the perfect and acceptable substitute.

If you are a child of God, you are a new creation. God loves you. You are completely forgiven. You are free! Know it. Rest in it. No guilt, no condemnation—ever. Beloved,

ponder these truths. What do they mean? Let the Holy Spirit teach you, for He will guide you into all truth (John 16:13).

When I finally understood the freedom I have in Jesus Christ, I literally jumped up and down with joy.

God is awesome!

Does the knowledge of my freedom in Christ Jesus lead me to sinning? Of course not! How can God lead me to a life of sin? It is He who is at work in me, both to will and to work for His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13).

All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

(1 Corinthians 6:12)

Grasp the words “All things are lawful.” *Freedom!* The question we should ask ourselves before we do or don’t do something is: “Is it profitable? Does it edify? Am I walking in love? Am I thinking of others? Will I hurt anyone through my action or word? Do I walk according to the law of the Spirit—according to the law of love?”

For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

(Galatians 5:13, 14)

Brothers and sisters, don’t let anyone enslave you again. Know the truth. If you are in error, you are not free.

ONLY THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE.

Jesus said,

“If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine;

and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

(John 8:31, 32)

If therefore the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.

(John 8:36)

Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you,
and through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things, from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses.

(Acts 13:38, 39)

But take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

(1 Corinthians 8:9)

All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify.

Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor.

(1 Corinthians 10:23, 24)

Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

(2 Corinthians 3:17)

. . . liberty which we have in Christ Jesus.

(Galatians 2:4)

Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bond-slaves of God.

(1 Peter 2:16)