

Freedom Isn't Free

John 8:32 - NKJV

³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

When we look back at our fight for independence from England in July of 1776. There was mass shooting of our men, sons, and even daughters who would take a stand against the British Empire.

When we think of July the 4th we think of fireworks and cookouts. But the real fireworks were not pretty for they were bombs bursting in air and the destruction they brought was real.

If they landed near you, you were either put in a hospital or a grave.

- Not a pretty picture at all.
- But Liberty has a price tag.
- Freedom has a cost.

Our freedom here in America was bought by the blood of many men who fought for the principals of that freedom....

Our spiritual freedom and liberty today also was very costly and it still carries a price tag.

Are we willing to pay the cost of keeping this freedom as many of our country's men and women have done through the years since July 4th, 1776?

Liberty is a purchased commodity

A. Natural Liberty

- Mankind is often ruled over by power hungry rulers who hold their citizens in captivity within their own land
- Governments can rule over people and strip them of their individual freedoms

Our fore fathers came to this land to be free to worship God with their own hearts as they saw fit.

Not to have a government that would tell them how & where they could worship...

The founders of our constitution believed in the true principals of liberty and freedom

- Which they believed were **God given rights** to all men.

Freedom was purchased from England by taking a stand and fighting for it

- That **fighting cost people their lives.**

What a cost !

Their blood was **shed for the freedoms** which we now enjoy.

- Many **lost** their homes and businesses - - -
- Their enemies would ***burn everything to discourage*** them from fighting against them!

What a cost !

Many **older folks** lost their children to the Revolutionary War

- Young men went, fought, and died ***so we can enjoy freedom!!!***

What a cost !

Truly freedom **isn't Free!**

Someone has to **pay the price of Liberty.**

B. Spiritual Liberty

In the spiritual realm the enemy denies people of their liberty through SIN.

Proverbs 5:22 - NKJV

²² His own iniquities entrap the wicked *man*, And he is caught in the cords of his sin.

When we commit sin, we become its servant.....

John 8:34 - NKJV

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin *is a slave of sin*.

Even when we are born again and set free from sin we often *place ourselves once again in its bondage...*

Romans 6:16 - NKJV

¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of *sin leading to death*, or of *obedience leading to righteousness*?

Since all have sinned and come short of God's glory is there hope that any can find liberty and freedom from sin?

YES !!!!

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Obtaining the Liberty

A. Natural Liberty

- The Revolutionary War brought our nation the independence that it had fought for and shed its blood for
- From time to time other wars were fought to maintain that independence and to bring independence to others

B. Spiritual Liberty

The ultimate and eternal sacrifice of ***Jesus on the Cross*** was the catalyst which ***brought about the potential for freedom!!!!!!!!!!***

His blood shed on Calvary was the price tag of freedom - - -

- A very expensive price....

Through giving His life other lives could be redeemed or purchased

The **sacrifice of Calvary** should be our remembrance every 4th of July as we celebrate independence day.

The **sacrifice of Jesus** did not automatically bring freedom to all mankind

- Even though *the blood was shed for all* - - -
- ***We must apply it!!!!!!***

The truth the Bible says will set you free if you can come to **KNOW IT!**

What is that truth that brings freedom?

- How can we find it?
- Where can we go to look for it?
- What is the secret of liberty from sin?

Ephesians 1:13-14 - NKJV

¹³ In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard *the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation*; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

The Gospel is the Truth which will set us Free from the clutches of sin in our life

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 – NKJV - *The Risen Christ, Faith's Reality*

15 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand,

² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

The gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus!

How do we receive this Gospel of Salvation?

What can we do to acquire the redemption price Jesus paid for our Liberty?

Peter preached the answer to this question on Pentecost - Acts 2:38

What is the secret to this message?

- Obedience to it!
- **REPENT** - Change your thinking!
- Be Baptized in Jesus Name!
- Be filled with the Holy Spirit!

Does this really bring Liberty?

2 Corinthians 3:17 - NKJV

¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty.

CLOSE:

C. Spiritual Liberty costs us something as well

It cost us our old thinking and way of life

It cost us our old habits of sin, for if we continue to sin, we will continue to be in bondage to sin.

It cost us the control of our lives, when we let Jesus be the Lord of our lives, we cease to be in charge.

“Not my will, but yours be done”

Do you really want to be free today?

CHANGE YOUR THINKING !

Isaiah 61:1 - The Good News of Salvation or The Year of the Lord's Favor

61 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim **freedom** for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,

1 Corinthians 11 - Imitate me, just as I also *imitate* Christ.

Institution of the Lord's Supper

²³ For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; **do this in remembrance of Me.**"

²⁵ In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, **in remembrance of Me.**"

²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, **you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.**

Examine Yourself

²⁷ Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord **in an unworthy manner** will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

²⁸ But let a man **examine** himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

²⁹ For he who eats and drinks **in an unworthy manner** eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Acts 2:38 - NKJV

³⁸ Then Peter said to them, **"Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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