

SOME FACTS ON FREEDOM

(John 8:28-32)

Introduction:

1. Tomorrow our country celebrates its independence from Great Britain. We celebrate 240 years of determining to be free.
2. In like manner, Christians celebrate their freedom from sin every day, and especially on the Lord's Day. Let us consider this freedom from sin available to all by looking into the means, mode, and maintaining of that precious freedom.

Discussion:

I. The Means of Freedom.

- A. It begins with an understanding of sin and its consequences.
 1. Sin is the violation of the expressed will of God and the consequence is death (Gen. 2:17; Rom. 6:23a; Jas. 2:26; Is. 59:1, 2).
 2. That is why "seeking God" (reconciliation after separation) brings life (Amos 5:4; Matt. 11:28-30).
- B. God, in His grace and mercy, allowed for a substitution (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 5:21). We do not have to die for our sin, but sin must still be paid for (Lev. 17:11).
 1. Christ is the substitution (Heb. 9:6-15, 22-28).
 2. Jesus paid the price for our sin (Gal. 3:13; 1 John 2:2).
- C. Thus, the only means of freedom from sin is by way of the blood of Jesus (John 14:6; Rom. 6:23).

II. The Mode of Freedom.

- A. This begs the question of how we access the blood of Christ for our freedom from sin (Rom. 7:24-8:4; 5:1, 2, 9-11). Living according to the Spirit = living by faith.
- B. How has God told us to access the blood of Christ that frees us from sin? Consider Rom. 6.
 1. Christians (those who have been freed from sin) are being instructed that of course they cannot go back to living the way they did before they were freed (vv 1, 2).
 2. Paul reminds them that they had died to sin and self in baptism (vv 3-10).
 3. They had been freed from sin when they obeyed from the heart that form (pattern) of doctrine (instruction) given to them (vv 17, 18; cp. Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Cor. 15:1-4).
 4. Freedom from sin is achieved by accessing the blood of Christ, which is accomplished by submission and obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ (vv 18-23; cp. Col. 1:13).

III. The Maintaining of Freedom.

- A. That leads us to the final point of how we can maintain our freedom from sin; the doctrine of once freed always freed is a lie of the devil propagated to deceive the saved into being lost.
- B. We have discussed the maintenance of freedom from sin already in Rom. 6 (as a slave of God and righteousness we do not present ourselves to sin to obey it) and Rom. 8 (living according to the Spirit not the flesh). But 1 John 1:5-10 says it in a very concise and yet complete way.
 1. God is light and thus to be with Him we must be without any darkness. Only by the continual cleansing by the blood of Christ can we be without darkness. That continual cleansing is only available to those who are living according to Christ's will. If we stumble, not stride, into sin we can remain free of sin if we repent and confess our sin and ask forgiveness from the Father.
 2. It is as simple as a walk in the light, and as difficult (Col. 3:17; Rev. 2:10).

Conclusion:

1. Consider how Peter summarized freedom from sin (1 Pet. 1:17-25ff).
2. Brethren, this Independence Day let us remember that every day of the faithful Christian's life is a day of independence, if we are walking in the light faithfully until death. Obeying His every word and confessing our every sin.
3. Invitation.

MORE ON "SOME FACTS ON FREEDOM"

1. The Lie of Freedom.
 - A. The idea that we can be free from sin without being free from self is a lie (Luke 9:23; Gal. 2:20; not to mention the arguments of Rom. 6 and 8). Yet many people live this lie.
 - B. The idea that we can be free from sin without becoming slaves of God is a lie (Rom. 6:18-23; 8:24-8:4; Luke 6:46-49). Yet, many people live this lie.
 - C. The idea that we can be free from sin without becoming servants to other people is a lie (1 Cor. 6:12 in contrast with 1 Cor. 9:1, 19ff).

2. The Illusion of Freedom.
 - A. The idea that we can be free from sin in any other way than what has been conveyed/commanded by God (Col. 2:8-23).
 - B. The idea that freedom from sin is not necessary or is already accomplished because of the rewards of this world. Success in this world is not necessarily an indicator of a person's status with God. Velvet chains are still chains, and the devil has no need to attack those who are his (Ps. 73).

3. The Price of Freedom.
 - A. In typical Christian (worldly counterintuitive) fashion, freedom from sin is only possible in humble servitude to God and His will. Freedom can only be realized when we enslave ourselves to our Lord and His people (kingdom attitude and living).
 - B. The only way we can be free from sin is by means of our death to sin and self. Remember, our life is in heaven with our Lord; it will be revealed when He comes again (Col. 3:1ff).
 - C. Here in this world, we can be free from sin but it is not our home. We are but wayward pilgrims searching for a city not made with hands, a heavenly country, a kingdom that cannot be shaken.

**FREE YOURSELF
AND REMAIN
FREE**