

A Study in Galatians

Galatians 5: 13-26 (Part 1)

Paul said at the beginning of chapter 5 we are free.

What does being free mean?

Let's look at the Christian's freedom.

- **We are free...**
 1. **From** _____
 2. **From the** _____
- **We are free...**
 1. **To** _____ **in** _____
 2. **To** _____ _____
- **We must make a** _____

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Message Application:

Pastor, author and Bible teacher, Warren Wiersbe shared the following thought. “At the close of an important speech to Congress on January 6, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt shared his vision of the kind of world he wanted to see after the war was over. He envisioned four basic freedoms enjoyed by all people: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. To some degree, these freedoms have been achieved on a wider scale than in 1941, but our world still needs another freedom, a fifth freedom. Man needs to be free from himself and the tyranny of his sinful nature.” (Wiersbe, *Be Free*, page 125)

We know that Christ came to set us free. Speaking of himself Jesus Christ said, “*36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.*” John 8:36 NIV

Jesus did what he said he would do! He died on the cross, took our penalty and punishment for breaking God’s Law, forgave us for our sin, and made us Children of God. He then sent his Holy Spirit to live in each believer. The Christ-follower is really free!

The question now is, What are you going to do with your freedom?

A pardoned prisoner doesn't stay in the prison.

A student who graduates is not meant to stay in school.

The sinner who is saved from the bondage of sin is not to enter into the bondage of the LAW and he is not meant to remain in the shackles of the sin they have been freed from! The answer is to walk with the Holy Spirit that lives in you. The Holy Spirit always walks in love. Love is the key to freedom for the Christian; remember though, God will never twist your arm to live in love. If God coerced you to use your freedom in a certain way then you wouldn't be free. You would be under a new bondage. God doesn't coerce, Jesus offers a life that will keep you free but you my friend must decide to walk with and in the Holy Spirit.

This week meditate on your walk. The word-picture to walk or run is used to describe how we live our life. Meditate on the following Scripture and then ask yourself if they reflect the way you are living your life?

Matthew 7: 24-27, Romans chapter 12, 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20, Colossians 3

These passages challenge us to live as free people. We are to walk in the love of God and with love for others When we choose to live by the Spirit we will grow and become more like Jesus. I pray we will do just that.

Peace & Grace,

Wm. Lyons