

SET FREE BY FREEDOM

Since it is the 4th of July, I wanted to teach a lesson on freedom. The apostle Paul taught that the greatest freedom in life is spiritual.

“It was for (by) freedom (te eleutheria/ inst.of means) that Christ (christos) set us free (eleutheroo/ a.a.ind); therefore keep standing firm (steko/ p.a.impv.2pl) and do not be subject (enecho/ p.p.impv.2pl) again to a yoke of slavery.” (Gal.5:1)

The combination of the Greek noun (eleutheia) and verb (eleutheroo) refers to the completeness of the act of freedom.

Set free from slavery. What slavery involves all of mankind that only Christ can set free?

*“For as through the **one man’s disobedience (Adam)** the many *were made sinners* (AOS), even so through the **obedience of the One (Christ)** the many *will be made righteous.*” (Rom.5:19)*

This is an interesting idea that Paul put forward – “set free by freedom.” Most translate it “for” freedom. However, I believe it is *instrumental singular feminine* “by” freedom to emphasis GRACE.

This lesson will study SIX aspects of what it means to be SET FREE BY FREEDOM.

1. All of mankind is born inside the slave market of AOS (Adam’s original sin).

Jesus Christ is the only member of the human race born outside the slave market of AOS (Luke 1:34-35/ VB). He was born outside to free those inside it (2 Cor.5:21).

Those inside the slave market of AOS never experience this type of freedom – Spiritual Freedom. Jesus Christ is our freedom fighter that came to earth to free us from slavery to AOS (1 Tim.1:15).

2. The definite article with freedom (te eleutheria) places the emphasis on a special type of freedom that those inside the slave market of AOS will receive the moment of salvation (Gal.5:1, 13).

This special type of freedom is spiritual freedom – “It was by freedom that Christ set us free.”

“You have been set free from sin (AOS) and have become slaves to righteousness.” (Rom.6:18)

3. God created Adam and Eve with volition (free will) so that they could choose to live by spiritual freedom – “don’t eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.”

They chose to disobey God’s word and lost their spiritual freedom and by it enslaved the rest of mankind (Gen.2:16-17; Rom.5:12-21).

“For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.” (1 Cor.15:22)

“We know that the Law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin.” (Rom.7:14)

4. Jesus Christ was born into the human race apart from AOS and with spiritual freedom but surrendered it in order to free ALL inside the slave market of AOS by this freedom – “It was by freedom that Christ set us free.”

A person is freed from the slave market of AOS the moment of faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom.1:16; 1 Cor.15:3-4; Eph.2:8-9).

“So if (3cc) the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed (ontos/ spiritual freedom is a positional truth based on grace).” (John 8:36)

Therefore, we are the Lord’s freedman (1 Cor.7:22).

5. There are two important sides to spiritual freedom: positional and experiential.

Positional spiritual freedom is being permanently removed from the slave market of AOS by choosing to believe the gospel of Jesus Christ and then being placed into union with Jesus seated at the right hand of God in heaven (2 Cor.5:17; Gal.4:4-7; Rom8:2-4).

Experiential spiritual freedom is putting to death the OSN by choosing to consistently walk by means of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor.6:19-20; Gal.5:16; 2 Cor.6:16).

6. Before we close this lesson, it is important to call your attention to two commands in Gal.5:1).

The first command is positive and the second command is negative.

- The first command is “keep standing firm (steko/ p.a.impv.2pl)” (Matt.11:28-30; Acts 15:28; 1 Cor.6:13-14) - **POSITIVE CHOICE! (NMDV)**

“Like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.” (Eph.6:6)

“Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God.” (1 Pet.2:15)

“You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.” (Gal.5:13)

- The second command is “do not be subject (enecho/ p.p.impv.2pl) (John 8:32; Gal.2:4; 4:8-9).
- Please don’t miss the words (*AGAIN*) and (yoke of slavery) in Gal.5:1) –“don’t be subject *AGAIN* to a yoke of slavery.” This is a reference to old man cosmos diabolicus thinking of (Eph.4:22-24). **NEGATIVE CHOICE! (OMCD)**

“They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity – for a man is slave to whatever has mastered him.” (2 Pet.2:19)

“Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak.” (1 Cor.8:9)