

Freedom in Christ from Sin

Paul continues with the practical aspects of the truth that our salvation is by grace through faith alone. Last week we saw the freedom we have from the law. This week we see the freedom we have from sin.

1. **A Life Free from Slavery. Galatians 5:1, 13** The law and sin are forms of slavery. The Lord has brought us freedom. (**2 Corinthians 3:17**) According to blueletterbible.org "...it can mean liberty to do or to omit things having nothing to do with salvation. It can mean license to do as one pleases." We do have freedom to choose- however our choices can either be pleasing or displeasing to our Lord Jesus. And our choices do still have consequences even as a Christian. Some choices we make can lead us to live as a slave to something or someone other than Christ.

Our spiritual freedom in Christ is not to be used to indulge the "flesh". (Gal. 5:13b) The flesh in this case is the sinful state within each person because of the fall of Adam and Eve. This is the nature of humans apart from God's influence or intervention. It is rebellion against God.

The flesh of humans is weak. **Matthew 26:40-42** _____
 Christians who do choose to disobey the Lord and give in to sin will be convicted about it.

2. **The Marks of true Freedom Galatians 5:13b-15**

- a. Loving ones Neighbor.

The life that is free is evidence by serving one another humbly and lovingly. **Mk 10:42-45**

- b. Kindness and grace toward one another. **Galatians 5:15**

When an individual or group of people turn to legalism to try to live the Christian life- it leads to cruelty to oneself and others. For no one is comparing themselves to Christ, they compare themselves to one another. This verse means to wound the soul of another. To tear someone with disapproval and disappointment. When this kind of environment exists- anywhere, it will lead to destruction.

3. **The Key to true freedom, Walking in the Spirit. Galatians 5:16-18**

Our salvation from sin is an act of faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ. Our daily deliverance from slavery to sin and the law is in the ongoing work and power of the Holy Spirit whom Jesus has sent.

We are to walk by the Spirit. As our initial salvation came by way of faith, prayer and dependency on Christ, so our daily deliverance comes through faith, prayer and dependency upon the Holy Spirit. **Galatians 3:1-6**

4. **The Battle within the Christian. Galatians 5:17** Though a Christian is saved from their sins, there is still a battle that wages between the Spirit and the Flesh. **Romans 7:14-25**
This battle will wage until we reach heaven. It is a daily battle that can only be won by the filling of the Holy Spirit of God.
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5. **Be led by the Spirit. Galatians 5:18** This is a choice every moment of every day. We must ask ourselves, who will I follow? Who's voice will have the greatest influence in my life? When you are walking in the Spirit, as we will see, His fruit will be evident. There is no need to look to the law. In fact the law cannot empower a person to live for Christ. **Romans 8:1-4**
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