

Behold the Lamb Series

FREE INDEED

JOHN 8:31-37

Text: John 8:36

John 8:36

³⁶ If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

Introduction:

Today is a day when we Americans should stop to think about our freedom.

Because we are Americans, we possess certain rights and liberties that citizens of other nations do not enjoy.

Because we are Americans, we can assemble in this place today.

Because we are Americans, we are free to believe in any God we choose or in no God if we choose.

Because we are Americans, we have the right to speak our mind on any issue we choose.

Because we are Americans, we have the right to carry a Bible, pray in the name of Jesus Christ and serve Him in

the world today. Thank God for the rights we enjoy as Americans.

It is possible for a person to enjoy all the rights guaranteed to the citizens of this nation and for that person to still not be free?

There are many Americans free socially, but bound spiritually?

In these verses, the Lord is speaking to a group of people who thought they were free. They believed that because they were the sons of Abraham, they enjoyed spiritual freedom, v. 33.

John 8:33

³³ *They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?*

The Lord lets them know that because they are sinners, they are slaves to sin, v. 34.

John 8:34

³⁴ *Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.*

This same truth is repeated by Paul in Romans 6:16.

Romans 6:16

¹⁶ *Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?*

The Lord wants the audience listening in that day, as well as in this day, to know that He has the power to make men truly free, vs. 32.

John 8:32

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

Note:

1. THE SOURCE OF OUR FREEDOM

The Lord says the source of spiritual our freedom in vs. 32 is in “the truth”.

The truth the Lord is referring to is the whole truth regarding Who He is and what He did for sinners. It refers to the whole truth about Himself.

The truth about Jesus Christ is seen all around us so that lost sinners are without excuse before God.

Psalm 19:1-5

¹ *The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. ² Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. ³ There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. ⁴ Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, ⁵ Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.*

Romans 1:18-21

¹⁸ *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; ¹⁹ Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. ²⁰ For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: ²¹ Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

The Source of Our Freedom is found in the Lord alone.

Note also:

2. THE SCOPE OF OUR FREEDOM

The Lord says in verse 36 that when He makes a person “free” they are “free indeed”. The first word translated “free” comes from a word that means “to set at liberty”. It is the picture of someone liberating a slave from bondage.

The second word translated “free” refers to “one who is freeborn”. The Lord is saying that the freedom He gives us when He saves us is so complete that “it is as if we were never slaves to begin with, but it is as if we were freeborn sons of God”.

The liberty the Lord gives us is so complete that it blots out our past and makes us absolutely and eternally free in Him. That is a far cry from where we were before we met Him.

John 8:34

³⁴ *Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.*

Ephesians 2:1-3

¹ *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;* ² *Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:* ³ *Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in*

the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Thank God for the liberty we enjoy in Jesus Christ!

Consider for a moment that areas where we have been liberated:

- We have been delivered from the wrath of God (Romans 5:9)

Romans 5:9

⁹ Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

- We have been delivered from condemnation (Romans 8:1)

Romans 8:1

¹ There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

- We have been delivered from death and Hell

John 5:24

²⁴ Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation;

but is passed from death unto life.

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- We have been delivered from the power of sin

Romans 6:13-14

¹³ Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

- We have been delivered from the power of Satan

1 Peter 5:8-9

⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: ⁹ Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Remember:

Romans 8:2

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Galatians 5:1

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

The Source of Our Freedom is in Christ alone. The Scope of Our Freedom is absolute, complete and eternal.

Note also:

3. THE SACRIFICE FOR OUR FREEDOM

The freedom we enjoy as Americans was not cheap. We enjoy our freedom as Americans because over 1 million brave soldiers paid for our freedoms with their blood.

Consider those who signed The Declaration of Independence. Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or the hardships of the Revolutionary War.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants; nine were farmers and large plantation owners, men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

Illustrations:

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships sunk by the British navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts and died in poverty.

At the battle of Yorktown, the British General Cornwallis had taken over Thomas Nelson's home for his headquarters. Nelson quietly ordered General George Washington to open fire on the Nelson home. The home was destroyed and Nelson died bankrupt.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their thirteen children fled for their lives. His fields and mill were destroyed. For over a year, he lived in forest and caves, returning home only to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later, he died from exhaustion.

Our freedom as Americans was purchased at a very high cost. We should be thankful for it, and we should all be willing to die to protect it.

While the price for our national freedom was costly and bloody, it pales in comparison to the cost of our spiritual freedom. The cost of our spiritual freedom was the death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross at Calvary.

- It was there the He gave Himself a ransom for all.

1 Timothy 2:6

⁶ *Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.*

- It was there that He became “the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:2

² *And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*

- It was there that “he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5

⁵ *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

- It was there that “the LORD...laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:6

⁶ *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

Why did He do it? The answer is quite simple. He did it because He loves us.

Romans 5:8

⁸ *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

Close:

In Jesus Christ slaves are made free men. In Jesus Christ, the bondage of sin is forever broken; the flames of Hell are quenched; and the fierceness of divine wrath is assuaged. In Jesus Christ, there is life, liberty and the pursuit of godliness.