



Freedom Is Not Always Free

By Johnny Caruso on September 10, 2021

TODAY'S READING: 2 Peter 2

They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved (verse 19).

When Trish and I became Christ followers, we were in a Southern Baptist Church that was very legalistic. Thus we became legalistic in the way we approached our, and others', walk with Christ. That is the awesomeness of sanctification. The longer we serve the Lord and understand His Word, the more we understand our freedoms, or our liberties, in Christ. Because of our raising we have learned to not give in to most liberties our relationship through Christ allows us.

The word *freedom* in the world usually means "Do whatever you want, whenever you want and however you want." Something we need to be careful about is that Peter says we should beware that the false teacher promised freedom with no consequences. Peter makes it very clear that promise is a lie. It is not only wrong because the false teacher taught it, but also due to evidence in our lives who practice it. We actually become slaves to the very "freedoms" we practice. In fact, Peter says, we become slaves of corruption. He says that whatever overcomes a person, to that he/she is enslaved.

This can be both positive and negative. Those overcome by addictions, drugs, alcohol and sexual desires are certainly controlled by them. (As we all know, you do not get addicted by indulging only once. It is a constant abuse of your freedoms that enslaves you.) But Peter started his second letter calling himself a *slave* or *bond servant*, which are interchangeable words. One of the promises of Jesus to His followers is that life under the true Master is true freedom, even from the relentless demands of our sinful selves.

What is true freedom? It is the ability to say no to ourselves, to not follow down the path of destruction, and to say yes to Jesus and find true freedom, joy and abundant life. John 10:10

PRAYER: Thank You father that we have freedoms in You. Please help us discern the ones that are profitable in our walk in You.

Have a great weekend!

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

MONDAY'S READING: 2 Peter 3

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