



## Freedom *in* Christ

**Memory Text:** *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. ... For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.”* ([Galatians 5:1,13 KJV](#)).

### **Read and Meditate for This Week’s Study:**

*Galatians 5:1-15; 1 Corinthians 6:20; Romans 8:1; Hebrews 2:14-15; Romans 8:4; Romans 13:8;*

**Main Thought for the Week:** What does it mean to have freedom in Christ? Freedom in Christ is not the same as anarchy. There are many different views throughout Christianity today about what Freedom in Christ means, but it is the Bible that holds the answer to God’s perspective on this - and every other spiritual - topic. This week, we will take a brief look at what Christ has freed us from, and what it means to walk in His freedom.



## **Christ Has Set Us Free**

### **Sunday's Summary – September 3:**

1. How do the following verses help us understand what Christ has achieved for us?

**Galatians 1:3-4** \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 5:8-10, 17** \_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 3:13** \_\_\_\_\_

**Discuss/Consider:** Is it possible for us - on this side of eternity - to have a proper conception of all that Heaven paid for our redemption? What can we do to improve our understanding and appreciation of that gift? (**Isaiah 61:1-3**) \_\_\_\_\_

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### **PERSONAL NOTES:**

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## The Nature of Christian Freedom

### Monday's Summary – September 4:

1. From what is the Christian freed?

Romans 6:8, 11-14 \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 2:14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

Galatians 5:1 \_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 2:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 8:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Discuss/Consider:** Does freedom in Christ mean that we can do whatever we want? \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Dangers of Legalism

### Tuesday’s Summary – September 5:

1. What are some dangerous consequences of legalism?

**Galatians 5:2-4** \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 4:1-4** \_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 2:16** \_\_\_\_\_

**ILLUMINATION:** A legal religion can never lead souls to Christ; for it is a loveless, Christless religion. Fasting or prayer that is actuated by a self-justifying spirit is an abomination in the sight of God. The solemn assembly for worship, the round of religious ceremonies, the external humiliation, the imposing sacrifice, proclaim that the doer of these things regards himself as righteous, and as entitled to heaven; but it is all a deception. Our own works can never purchase salvation.

– Ellen G. White, *Desire of Ages*, p. 280

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Liberty Not Licentiousness**

### **Wednesday’s Summary – September 6:**

1. What makes “freedom in Christ” different from licentiousness?

**Galatians 5:13-16** \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 8:1-6** \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 6:1-2** \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Timothy 2:19-22** \_\_\_\_\_

**ILLUMINATION:** As we see the results which have followed a disregard of God’s law, – dishonesty, theft, licentiousness, drunkenness, and murder, – we are prepared to say with the psalmist, “I love Thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold”; “in keeping of them, there is great reward.” When the divine law is set aside, the greatest misery will result, both to families and to society. Our only hope of better things is to be found in a faithful adherence to the precepts of Jehovah. ...

– Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times*, September 15, 1881, paragraph 19

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Fulfilling the Whole Law**

### **Thursday's Summary – September 7:**

1. What does it mean to “fulfill the whole law”?

**Hebrews 10:23-24** \_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 5:13-14** \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 13:8** \_\_\_\_\_

**James 2:8-10** \_\_\_\_\_

**ILLUMINATION:** Now genuine faith always works by love. When you look to Calvary it is not to quiet your soul in the nonperformance of duty, not to compose yourself to sleep, but to create faith in Jesus, faith that will work, purifying the soul from the slime of selfishness. When we lay hold of Christ by faith, our work has just begun. Every man has corrupt and sinful habits that must be overcome by vigorous warfare. Every soul is required to fight the fight of faith. If one is a follower of Christ, he cannot be sharp in deal, he cannot be hardhearted, devoid of sympathy. He cannot be coarse in his speech. He cannot be full of pomposity and self-esteem. He cannot be overbearing, nor can he use harsh words, and censure and condemn. {2SM 20.3}

The labor of love springs from the work of faith. Bible religion means constant work. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God that worketh in you, both to will and to do of His good pleasure. We are to be zealous of good works, be careful to maintain good works. And the true Witness says: “I know thy works” (Revelation 2:2). {2SM 20.4}

While it is true that our busy activities will not in themselves ensure salvation, it is also true that faith which unites us to Christ will stir the soul to activity. {2SM 20.5}

– Ellen G. White, **Selected Messages Book 2**, p. 20

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_



## **Wrapping It All Up...**

### **Friday’s Summary – September 8:**

**Appeal:** As Christ was willing to sacrifice everything for us, so we should be willing to sacrifice for others. We encourage you to take some time today to seek strength from God to fulfill the law of love to our fellow man. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Final Thoughts:** At Metro New York World Ministry, we seek to teach all of our listeners that the Plan of Salvation was implemented by the Godhead to free man from sin **and** all of its effects. The death and resurrection of Jesus not only guarantees that we can be forgiven of our sins, but that we can be given victory over the power of sin in our daily lives. We need not be in bondage to sin and sinful practices. God didn’t just love us enough to pay for our past failures, but He sent His Son Jesus to live as an example for us. Now, as Christ ministers for us in the Heavenly Sanctuary, we are enabled to live righteously - by faith - through the power of the Holy Spirit. These won’t be lives of legalism, or lives of licentiousness, but lives of love and service by the power of God. (Psalm 40:8)

**PERSONAL NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

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