

Fueling Station 6: Key to Freedom



Key Introduction:

Over here in America we have used freedom to turn the land of opportunity where dreams come true into the land of sin where corruption and immorality come true. Unfortunately many in the body of Christ have done the same. Since the church pulpit has watered down the true meaning of biblical freedom, it has led to sloppy agape and cheap grace. Again the Apostle Paul has some essential instruction from our Lord on this topic.

Key Unlocked:

The lukewarm church has not defined biblical words correctly, we have westernized the definitions of the greek understanding. Freedom is not the permission to follow our desires that are contrary to God's moral teaching, but freedom is the ability to carry out the righteous requirement of God's law without being a slave to the desires of darkness. We are set free from enslavement to Satan's Kingdom to live by that freedom in God's Kingdom of light. This freedom was never permission to deny God's moral standard but it is a freedom from external "yokes" of slavery put on His people by both the tyranny of the pious man made laws of the "religious" elite and the sloppy doctrine of the liberal denominations!

Galatians 5:1

"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."

Romans 6:6,7

"knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin."

Strong's Concordance

eleutheria: liberty, freedom

Original Word: ἑλευθερία, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: eleutheria

Phonetic Spelling: (el-yoo-ther-ee'-ah)

Definition: liberty, freedom

Usage: freedom, liberty, especially: a state of freedom from slavery.

Galatians 5:2,3

“Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.”

*It is key to our understanding of freedom to understand what the “whole” law is. The context shows that it is in reference to circumcision. This is because the religious leaders of the day were priding themselves on the external requirements of the Law of Moses. This becomes very evident in all of the Apostle Paul’s writings to the churches when he mentions circumcisions of the flesh, feast days, sabbaths, food sacrificed to idols, etc... These are all external methods that were required by God as a shadow of things to come, when Christ would now deal with the internal heart of man by way of His Spirit through faith!

Galatians 4:10

“You observe days and months and seasons and years! I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain.”

Romans 2:25-29

“For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. So, if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the precepts of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? Then he who is physically uncircumcised but keeps the law will condemn you who have the written code and circumcision but break the law. For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter.”

Galatians 5:13

“ For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love(Agape) serve one another.”

Galatians 5:16-18

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that

you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.”

*Notice the clear distinction on how to accomplish the moral law. It is by walking in the Spirit and not by the external “works” of the Law.

To be “under” the Law is a reference to this old covenant method of trying to please God. This method has obviously changed through Christ in the new covenant!

Romans 6:12-14

“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.”

*Remember Paul presents “grace” as the power to please God and overcome temptation to sin!

The conclusion about freedom by Peter:

“Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.”

1 Peter 2:11-12, 15-16 ESV

*In summary, our freedom in Christ has two applications: We have been set free from the rule of Satan in our lives, and we have been set free from the rule of the Pharisee or “religious” leaders over our lives who teach that the external regulations save us from sins power and offer divine favor.

“If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings? These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.”

Colossians 2:20-23 ESV

Application/Contemplation:

1)what was the original meaning of America being “the land of the free”?

2)Has the original meaning of our Founding Fathers changed over the years? How so?

3)How does our Heavenly Father define freedom and what is it’s intended purpose?

4)How can we as His people become a good steward of this knowledge?

*Remember be a good Berean and be diligent in studying the scriptures to show yourself approved and encourage others to do the same!