

FREEDOM AND LIBERTY IN CHRIST.

(Wellsford C.F. 14/8/88 - EKB)

1. God's Word is strong on the **freedom** that God gives.
Jn 8:30-36, Rom 8:2, 2Cor 3:17, Gal 5:1,13, Lk 4:18, Lev 25:8-10.
The first two scriptures describe **freedom** from sin and unrighteousness obtainable by persistent faith in God's Word, by the power of the Spirit, and by God's grace, *2Cor 7:1*. The second two scriptures declare **freedom** from the bondage of the law, of seeking salvation by works and personal merit. In the Luke reference Jesus proclaims **freedom** from broken-heartedness, captivity, blindness, oppression, and release into the year of Jubilee, (shouting).
Lev 25:8-10 outlines **Jubilee freedom**. All slaves are released and everyone is set free to return to their God-given possession. Hallelujah! This is Jesus.
2. **What freedom is not.**
It is not freedom to be equal to God. He is:
 - a. **independent** - a separate Being whom no-one can change or turn, *Job 23:13*.
 - b. **self sufficient** - exists by Himself and does not need input and supply from others, *Is 40:13,14*.
 - c. **self determining** - self choosing, self pleasing, He purposes, plans and acts by Himself, *Job 23:13*.
3. God made man in His Image and Likeness so that we could be one with Him, to know Him, love Him, follow and obey Him, to walk with Him, depend on Him, and receive His supply always.
4. He did **not** make us to be independent, self sufficient and self pleasing.
5. Satan broke relationship with God by striving for these things, *Is 14:12-15 (v14 especially)*.
6. When Satan tempted man in *Gen 3:1-5*, he tempted man to choose these things, **to be equal with God**, ("like God") to be independent, self sufficient, self pleasing, to choose a freedom that only God can have.
7. This is a great lie and deception. We are created beings and are totally dependent upon God for everything (even if we do not know it and acknowledge it). *Ac 17:28, Heb 1:3, Col 1:17, 1Cor 4:7*.
8. To the "Rich Fool" Jesus said, "this night your soul will be required of you." Tonight you will have to face God and give an account of how you have used what God has given you, *Lk 12:20*.
9. When we face God He says either:

- a. “Come you blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the World,” *Mat 25:34*.
 - or b. “Depart from Me, you accursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels,” *Mat 25:41*.
10. We are answerable to God. We are not free to do our own thing, go our own way and please ourselves. We will all stand at the judgment seat.
11. Jesus sets us free from sin, satan, self, death, hell, this wicked world, and all evil, to be sons and daughters of God, knowing God, loving Him, serving Him and to be channels of light and love to this dying world, *2Cor 6:18*.
12. Repentance is turning from a life centred on self to a life where Jesus is Lord, and it is the only doorway to true eternal freedom. Choose life that you may live, *Deut 30:19*.

CHOOSE LIFE NOW.