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Subject: Re: Bulletin Board

Posted by [james](#) on Sun, 13 Sep 2009 12:24:41 GMT

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Jesus, our liberty...

"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." ~ Gal.5:1&13

Many Christians struggle with what Jesus came to do, The Word tells us that He came to set the captives free. We were the captives, captive to our carnal lust, captive to sin, captive to the law that we couldn't keep. Paul wrote in Romans 8 verse 6, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly.(John 10:10)

Some use the word liberty to justify carnal actions, saying that Jesus has set them free and they're free to do as they pretty much please. And often times those who are seeking to obey The Spirit and walk a separated, holy life before The Lord, are charged with being legalistic and under bondage. And that's not to say that many are under bondage and walk in legalism, believing that by their works they are justified, making the Grace of God of no effect in their lives.

Being set free and given liberty, is not freedom to sin, God forbid. It's not freedom to go back to the carnal ways of the world and the flesh, from which Jesus died to liberate us from. We're set free to be able to FREELY chose righteousness. We're free to follow Jesus; to, in love, serve one another; to walk in holiness.

Romans 8 verse 1 is not there so we can do as we please and tell ourselves we're free in Christ and our sins don't condemn us; the second part of the verse qualifies who are not condemned...those who are IN Christ Jesus, and walk NOT after the flesh, but after The Spirit.

We can't walk after the ways of this world and use them as the standard of righteousness. Our standard is God's Word and The Holy Spirit guiding us, revealing to our hearts that which is holy and unholy. As Christians, we shouldn't be trying to see how closely we can emulate the world, without losing our salvation; but rather, we should be striving to see how much like Jesus we can be. Will that bring perscution? Yes, it will even bring false accusations from the religious community, with charges of legalism and bondage. But to walk in liberity is to walk in The Spirit, and we know that ..."For as many as are lead by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Rom.8:14

Do we all struggle with the temptations and cares of this world, yeah, to some degree. What did Paul say in Rom 7 about wanting to obey God and the battle between the flesh and the spirit? It's only by walking in the spirit that we can overcome the flesh, and we're only able to do that because of the LIBERTY we have in and through Jesus.

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