

“The Truth Which Makes Us Free”

John 8:31-36

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?” Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

Introduction

Shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attack, British Prime Minister Tony Blair gave an inspiring speech to Parliament and the world declaring, “Freedom is a universal value.” On Independence Day, Americans celebrate our freedom as an “inalienable” right granted by our Creator. Today, we look at one of the most often misquoted verses in the Bible, “The truth shall set you free.” Jesus describes true freedom as far more than a political value or even a human rights issue. True freedom cannot be limited or taken away by any human authority because it comes from Jesus himself. Today, join the discovery of how you can have a freedom of the heart and soul that lasts forever.

1) **Beware of the slavery of the human heart**

They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity — for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him. — 2 Peter 2:19

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin. — Romans 6:6

2) **Only one Truth sets us free**

Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” ...“What is truth?” Pilate asked.

— John 18: 37b - 38a