

Liberty

Intro: In this country July 4 is a special and extremely important day—that being Independence Day. We, on that day in 1776, declared our independence from the bondage of England. But all men have a much greater bondage than any physical bondage could be.

I. THE BONDAGE OF SIN.

A. Many feel that sin liberates.

1. This is a deception of Satan.
2. Heb. 3:13 “But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.”

B. Sin enslaves.

1. Psa. 19:13 “Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous *sins*; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.”
2. Psa. 119:133 “Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.”
3. John 8:34 “Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”
4. 2 Pet. 2:18-19 “For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. ¹⁹While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”
5. Rom. 6:12, 14, 17, 20 “Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof....¹⁴For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace....¹⁷But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you....²⁰For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.”

C. Its end result is death.

1. Rom. 6:23 “For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
2. Jam. 1:14-15 “But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. ¹⁵Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”

II. MAN CAN HAVE LIBERTY.

A. **Zec. 13:1** “In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.”

B. This fountain was opened at the death of Christ.

1. Mat. 26:28 “For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”
2. Eph. 1:7 “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”
3. 1 Pet. 1:18-19 “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:”

4. 1 John 1:7 “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”
5. Rev. 1:5 “And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”

C. How we lay hold of this fountain.

1. Believe
 - a. John 3:16-17, 36 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved....³⁶He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”
 - b. Acts 16:31 “And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”
2. Repent.
 - a. Luke 24:46-47 “And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: ⁴⁷And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”
 - b. Acts 3:19 “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;”
3. Confess your faith.
 - a. Rom. 10:9-10 “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”
 - b. Acts 8:37 “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”
4. Be baptized.
 - a. Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
 - b. 1 Pet. 1:22-23 “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently: ²³Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”
 - c. 1 Pet. 3:21 “The like figure whereunto *even* baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:”
 - d. Rom. 6:3-7, 17-18, 22 “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his* resurrection: ⁶Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. ⁷For he that is dead is freed from sin....¹⁷But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. ¹⁸Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness....²²But now being made free from sin, and become

servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.”

D. We thus have:

1. Freedom or liberty.
 - a. John 8:32 “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”
 - b. Gal. 5:1 “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”
 - c. 1 Pet. 2:16 “As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.”
2. Eternal life.
 - a. Rom. 6:9, 22-23 “Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him....²²But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. ²³For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
 - b. 1 Cor. 15:55-57 “O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?
⁵⁶ The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law. ⁵⁷But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”