

For Freedom Christ Has Set Us Free

May 30, 2021

In the Epistle to the Galatians, Paul was fighting two errors which feed off each other:

- *We must save and change ourselves by self-determination and self-discipline.*
- *We cower to the domination and control of others.*

“We Must Save and Change Ourselves by Self-Determination and Self-Discipline”

Titus 3:4-7 ESV

4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,
5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,
6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,
9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Galatians 5:2-6 ESV

2 Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.
3 I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.
4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.
5 For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.
6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

We Cower to the Domination and Control of Others

Galatians 5:1 ESV

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

Matthew 23:2-5 ESV

2 The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat,
3 so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice.
4 They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.
5 They do all their deeds to be seen by others.

Galatians 5:7-10 ESV

7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you.

9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is.

Galatians 2:3-5 ESV

3 But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek.

4 Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in--who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery--

5 to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.

Galatians 2:11-13 ESV

11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.

12 For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.

13 And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

Jeremiah 31:33-34 ESV

33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD."

1 John 2:26-27 ESV

26 I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you.

27 But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie--just as it has taught you, abide in him.

Our Freedom in America to Think, Speak and Live Our Lives unto God is Disappearing

"'60 Minutes' this past Sunday interviewed over 30 young people who transitioned but they felt led astray because of lack of pushback or how easy it was to make physical changes to their bodies... They are now detransitioning,' he said."

"It's not my intention to hurt anyone, but there are certain truths that we must face when ready. We condemn school policies [that] would damage children, defile the holy image of God."

"I love all of my students but I will never lie to them regardless of the consequences. I'm a teacher but I serve God first and I will not affirm that a biological boy can be a girl and vice versa because it's against my religion. It's lying to a child, it's abuse to a child, and it's sinning against our God."

—Leesburg Elementary Teacher Byron 'Tanner' Cross, FOX News, May 28, 2021

"The nation's largest defense contractor forced thousands of white employees to undergo a training program designed to make white males a more "important part of ... inclusion efforts."

According to a report from City Journal, Lockheed Martin forced nearly 3,000 executives and employees to attend diversity training for white males. The program was led by the diversity, equity, and inclusion firm 'White Men As Full Diversity Partners.'

Participants were also asked to repeat 50 'white privilege statements.' Examples included, 'My culture teaches me to minimize the perspectives and powers of people of other races' and 'I can commit acts of terrorism, violence or crime and not have it attributed to my race.'

Employees were asked to recite an additional 59 'male privilege statements' and 59 'heterosexual privilege statements.'

White males were also asked to read 'I'm tired' statements that were allegedly written by racial minorities and women. Examples included 'I'm tired of being Black,' 'I'm tired of Black boys/girls being murdered,' and 'I'm tired of ... the concept that we should be 'colorblind.'"

—The Daily Wire, May 27, 2021

"Meanwhile, Hitler was moving ahead with his own plans for the church. He knew quite well how to deal with these Protestant pastors. 'You can do anything you want with them,' he once remarked. 'They will submit...they are insignificant little people, submissive as dogs, and they sweat with embarrassment when you talk to them.' With the cynicism he brought to every call for an 'election,' Hitler suddenly announced new church elections to be held July 23. This created an illusion of choice, but with the powers at the Nazis' disposal, there was little question who would win. Intimidation of every kind was brought to bear on the situation, with the serious threat that anyone opposing the German Christians could be accused of treason."

—Bonhoeffer, Eric Metaxas, page 180.

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

—Ronald Reagan

As Our Freedoms Disappear, How Do We Live?

Matthew 23:1-3 ESV

1 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples,

2 "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat,

3 so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice."

1 Peter 2:13-17 ESV

13 Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme,
14 or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.
15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.
16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.
17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

Daniel 6:6-10 ESV

6 Then these high officials and satraps came by agreement to the king and said to him, "O King Darius, live forever!
7 All the high officials of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an injunction, that whoever makes petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions.
8 Now, O king, establish the injunction and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked."
9 Therefore King Darius signed the document and injunction.
10 When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

Galatians 2:4-5 ESV

4 Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in--who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery--
5 to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.