

Let Us Stand Fast in the Liberty that Christ Provides
(Galatians 5:1)

Introduction:

1. The theme of our lesson is based on the admonition given in Galatians 5:1: "Let us stand fast in the liberty that Christ provides."
2. Since tomorrow is recognized as Independence Day, perhaps this is a good time to study passages that relate to this very important principle.
3. As we begin our lesson we first need to point out that . . .

Discussion:

I. CHRIST PROVIDES FREEDOM

- A. Galatians 5:1 mentions "*the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free.*"
- B. Many passages indicate that freedom comes from Christ.
 1. (Luke 4:18) As Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1-2 in the synagogue, He showed that He came "*to preach deliverance to the captives*" and "*to set at liberty them that are bruised.*"
 2. (John 8:36) Jesus said, "*If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.*"
 3. Jesus provides freedom; however, the Scriptures also teach that . . .
- C. Jesus gave guidelines for receiving the freedom He provides (John 8:31-32).
- D. Since these guidelines relate to our freedom,:
 1. let us identify the Lord's Word [the New Testament -- Hebrews 9:15]
 2. let us understand what is involved in "continuing in" the Lord's Word [to abide in, to dwell in, to remain in -- Colossians 3:16a; James 1:25].
- E. To receive the freedom that the Lord provides, we must avoid certain mistakes.
 1. We must not reject the Lord's Word (John 12:48).
 2. We must not follow a "perverted" [changed] gospel (Galatians 1:6-9).
- F. To summarize,:
 1. Jesus provides spiritual freedom
 2. we must continue in His Word to receive the freedom that He provides.

II. THE SCRIPTURES SHOW WHEN THE LORD PROVIDES FREEDOM

- A. We certainly want to continue in the Lord's Word to know the truth on this matter.
- B. (Romans 6:17-18) The Lord makes us free from sin when we obey from the heart the doctrine revealed in the Bible.
- C. (Romans 6:3-7) He makes us free from sin when we are baptized into Him.
- D. After He makes us free, . . .

III. CHRIST WANTS US TO REMAIN FREE

- A. Galatians 5:1 says that we are to "*stand fast*" in the liberty that Christ provides.
- B. Instructions that relate to this principle are given in:
 1. Galatians 5:1b -- "*Be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*"
 - a. We are no longer under the Law of Moses (Galatians 3:24-25).
 - b. We must not seek to be justified by the Law of Moses (Galatians 5:4).
 2. Galatians 5:13 -- The liberty provided by Christ does not allow us to serve the flesh.
 - a. Many "works of the flesh" are listed in vs.19-21.
 - b. See Galatians 5:24.

Conclusion:

1. Have you received the freedom that Christ provides?
2. If you have, are you standing fast in it?