

# Justice for All - Part 4 - Freedom Sunday Mark Rouse / mark@epicchurchbuffalo.com September 30, 2018

He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The Lord frees the prisoners. <sup>8</sup> The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down. The Lord loves the godly. <sup>9</sup> The Lord protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked.

- Psalm 146:7-9

- Over <u>40</u> million people are held in slavery today.
- 1 in 4 slaves is a CHILD.
- Human trafficking generates about \$150 BILLION a year (two-thirds from sexual exploitation).

He does not let the wicked live but gives justice to the afflicted. - Job 36:6

#### WHAT CAN WE DO?

### • We can PRAY.

The Lord replies, "I have seen violence done to the helpless, and I have heard the groans of the poor. Now I will rise up to rescue them, as they have longed for me to do." - Psalm 12:5

### • We can PARTNER.

Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. - Isaiah 58:6

#### • We can PARTICIPATE.

What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? <sup>15</sup> Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, <sup>16</sup> and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? - James 2:14-16

## • We can <u>PURSUE JESUS</u>.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, <sup>19</sup> and that the time of the Lord's favor has come." <sup>20</sup> He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!" - Luke 4:18-21

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. <sup>32</sup> And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." - John 8:31-32

# • What do I need **FREEDOM** from in my life today?