

King Over Our Freedom
Colossians 2:6-15
Sunday, June 14, 2020

Introduction

*I'm up here by the
will of God.*

↳ My first teaching in college. ↗

- Got appointed
- Sworn

- God had to move me
to make sure I
didn't teach that
msg.

Colossians written to encourage believers and confront false doctrine.
We will see both clearly in this passage
We will see how they are intertwined.

- I never would have
taught again.



These reminders + encouragements are
important for young believers

But watch this:

"You are spiritually free in Christ."
if any part of you hesitated,
this reminder is for you too.

Freedom Requires Foundations

Colossians 2:6-7

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

As you received, so now walk
As you have been given grace, mercy, so now take that into your life.
Walk ~~with~~^{with} Jesus in this freedom you have been given.
The assurance, the hope – let this root you, build you, establish you
Let it fill you with gratitude.

Saving gifts for a "rainy day" – time to open the gift!

Our freedom is not just received, ^{the important.} it is walked
This is the point at which the book turns

Our freedom roots us.
Our freedom builds us up.
Our freedom inspires gratitude.
We need these foundations as we face the world.

Freedom is Threatened by Frauds

Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

See to it – be watchful

Captivity – we can become prisoners of patterns of thought
Philosophy, empty deceit, tradition, elemental spirits – not Christ
“Freedom actually comes in all of these other ways”



Seeking freedom in all the wrong places.

CHRIST IS THE DOOR
ALL ELSE IS CAPTIVITY

There will be assaults on your ability to walk in freedom.

This is actually the time to grow, cling to what is true, not just what is enticing and easy.

Enemy loves to enslave us with things we think will save us.

See to it that no one takes you captive – not even yourself.

There is a Fullness of our Freedom

Colossians 2:9-12

For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

What does freedom mean? Is it enough? Am I really free?

To prove how comprehensive our freedom is, Paul makes three important points ~~through three essential metaphors~~

We don't become God, we get equipped by his deity

• First, the whole fullness of God's deity is embodied in Christ and through faith the fullness of who he is has been granted to us. *to dwell in us.*

• He has rule, dominion, and authority over all things, spiritual and physical.

• Meaning: we have all we need in Christ to follow God and to learn to be like him.

• Second, faith in Christ provides the truer circumcision.

• Formerly, physical circumcision was required for one to be set apart as a member of the family of God. It represented cleanliness, purity, and adherence to God.

• However, now in Christ, our very selves are circumcised, not with hands, but by the power of God.

• Meaning: we have all we need through faith in Christ to be pure and righteous before him.

Old self cast off

• Third, we are fully alive through faith in Christ.

• Christ's life, burial, and resurrection, as well as all that is accomplished by this, is given to us through faith and is symbolized through our baptism.

• His burial for our sins becomes our burial as well.

• His resurrection becomes our resurrection as well.

• Meaning: we are dead to the power of sin and alive to the power of God.

We have the fullness of our ruling Savior dwelling within us.
We have the wholeness and righteousness of Christ in the truer seal as God's people
We are awake and alive to God, dead to the power of sin.

Is this freedom effective?

Our salvation is full, comprehensive, sufficient.

It fills in all the cracks.

There is Finality in our Freedom

Colossians 2:13-15

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Am I free, fully free, once and for all?

- You were dead, you were impure, God made you alive.
- He forgave you trespasses, he blotted out the debt.
- The law was hostile towards us, God's grace was gentle towards us.
- He "destroyed out of sight" the annoyance and hostility of the law, nailing it with its demands to the cross.
- Verse 15 – he stripped them (spiritual rulers/authorities) of their weapons and shamed them.
- Triumphed over them.

This freedom is complete and final. →

Conclusion

MATH 2:10R

"You already know these things, you just need to live them out"

We need a foundation
We need to be aware of frauds
We need to embrace the fullness & finality of our freedom