

July 2, 2017

TIME OF REFLECTION

“It is difficult to free fools from the chains they revere.”

~Voltaire (1694-1778), aka François-Marie Arouet,
French Enlightenment philosopher

“Man is condemned to be free.”

~Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980), French philosopher and novelist

“You can destroy freedom as much by abusing it as you can by taking it away.”

~Attributed to Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

“God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, that his justice cannot sleep forever.”

~Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), inscribed in the Jefferson Memorial

“Men are largely interdependent, and no man’s activity is so completely private as never to obstruct the lives of others in any way. ‘Freedom for the pike is death for the minnows’; the liberty of some must depend on the restraint of others.”

~Isaiah Berlin (1909-1997) in *Two Concepts of Liberty* (1958)

“And freedom, oh freedom, well that’s just some people talkin’. Your prison is walking through this world all alone.”

~“Desperado” written by Glen Frey and Don Henley of The Eagles

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.”

~St. Paul in 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Worship through the Word

SERMON – “Living in the Kingdom: The Surprising Freedom of the Kingdom”

Pastor Don Willeman

SERMON PASSAGE – *Selected Passages from the Gospel of Mark (ESV)*

Mark 1

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Mark 8

³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

³⁴ And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his

cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. ³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷ For what can a man give in return for his soul?”

Mark 10

⁴² And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³ But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”