THE GOSPEL OF — THE GOSPEL OF —

"Truth and Freedom"

John 8:31-36

Truth and Freedom

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3 spiritual positions revealing where we truly abide

1. True Disciples abide in Truth

(v. 31-32)

Genuine believers persevere in faith through an ongoing relationship with Jesus, liberating them from sin and death.

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles? And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; leave me, you who practice lawlessness."

Matthew 7:21-23

"They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us."

1 John 2:19

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing."

John 15:4-5

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through me."

John 14:6

"Sanctify them in the truth, Your word is truth." John 17:17

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1. True <u>Disciples</u> abide in <u>Truth</u>

(v. 31-32)

Genuine believers persevere in faith through an ongoing relationship with Jesus, liberating them from sin and death.

2. True Slaves abide in Sin

(v. 33-34)

Having a <u>spiritual heritage</u> and <u>practicing religion</u> will never free you from bondage to the <u>sinful nature</u>.

"You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you,

'This people honors Me with their lips,

But their heart is far away from Me.

But in vain do they worship Me,

Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men."

Matthew 15:8-9

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.... Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

John 3:3, 5-6

"The hope for real freedom does not lie in the ancestry of Abraham, but in the action of Christ."

- Merrill C. Tenney

"There is none who does good, there is not even one." Romans 3:12

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

"Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from your sin, you became slaves of righteousness."

Romans 6:16-18

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3. True Sons abide in Freedom

(v. 35-36)

Only the Son of God redeems slaves into sons, bringing true freedom: living with God forever.

"He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

John 1:11-12

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Psalm 122:1

"Come, bless the Lord, All you servants of the Lord, Who stand by night in the house of the Lord..." Psalm 134:1

"One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life." Psalm 27:4

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."