

Real Freedom

Sin has lost its grip on you. I can't come back unless you decide to let it come back.

The only real freedom is in the Lord Jesus Christ. If you've been born again, the old man inside you, the one that had been held captive by the devil and made a slave to sin, has died. The power of sin over you has been broken forever!

"[Your] old man is crucified with [Christ]," Romans 6:6 says, "that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth [you] should not serve sin" (KJV). And not only are you free from sin, but if you'll walk in the righteousness Jesus has given you, you'll rule over it.

In the kingdom of God, righteousness is the scepter (see Heb. 1:8). It's what gives you authority. It is imputed to you the moment you're born again, and it makes you victorious over the world, the flesh, the devil and every enemy that comes against you.

That's why the devil will do anything to get you to lay righteousness down. He'll do anything to convince you that you're still under the bondage of sin.

He'll tell you that it's just not normal for a human being to live above sin. "Oh, everybody sins," he'll whisper. "After all, you're only human."

No, you're not! You're a reborn child of almighty God. You have God Himself inside you. Even though it's normal for natural men to sin, it's not normal for you.

I'll tell you why the devil tries so hard to convince you that you're still subject to sin. It's the only way he can keep you under his control.

He's not afraid of people (even believers) who are living in sin. But he shudders when a man or woman starts living day by day in obedient union with the Lord. When that kind of person speaks to the devil, he runs (see James 4:7).

Freedom from sin is the whole basis of the great salvation God has given us. "Salvation" is a very big word. It includes much more than going to heaven and missing hell. What it actually means is "health, wholeness, deliverance, well-being, safety and soundness."

But without freedom from sin, we wouldn't have any of those things. Sickness, poverty, death—all the curses of sin—would still be in force. It's only because God has broken the power of sin over us that we can walk free.

If you're shaking your head thinking: I don't feel very free. It seems as if the devil still has his hooks in me and I don't know how to get loose, listen to me. You are loose.

The Word says: "Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 6:8-11, NKJV).

When this Scripture comes alive in you, you can lay down any sin and never go back to it again. Let the truth of it sink into your heart. Sin has lost its grip on you. It can't come back unless you decide to let it come back.

Look at what Ephesians 2:5 says about you: "Even when we were dead (slain) by [our own] shortcomings and trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ; [He gave us the very life of Christ Himself, the same new life with which He quickened Him]" (The Amplified Bible).

You've already experienced the greatest resurrection of all. You experienced it the day you were born again. That's when you passed from death to life. That's when sin and death lost their hold over you—the day the old man died and the new man came to life.

So if you've been living beneath your privileges, it's time to pick up your scepter of righteousness and shake it in the devil's face. It's time to kick sin out of your life and start living free.

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