

Saturday Celebration [7-29-06]
"Let's do it."

Freedom Series [Pt. 5]

Things to remember:

2 Peter 1:12

God's reason for saving us: so that we would WALK OUT OF OUR PRISON CELLS AS **free** children so that He would be glorified.

[Gal. 5:1]

Freedom from what?==== from sin's control

Rom. 6:1-2,6

Freedom from whom?=== from Satan's control:

1 John 5:19 == 2 Cor. 4:4

Who has made us free from sin and Satan?

Jesus Christ, the Lord **Heb. 2:14**

When did this happen?

In the resurrection of Jesus, "... when [God] raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places" [**Eph. 1:20**].

When did WE receive this freedom giving power?

When we were saved, **John 8:36**

2 Cor. 5:17

*What "old things" have passed away?
=our old bondage to sin and Satan=*

But do we have the POWER to walk free?

1 John 4:4

2 Cor. 10:3-5

Matt. 28:18

IN Christ, we **NOW** have all the power we need to live completely free from **SIN'S control.** == 2 Peter 1:3

These are the facts:

1. We were all born in jail, slaves to sin and Satan having NO ability or desire to be free
2. When God saved us, Jesus **UNLOCKED** our cells of sin and He kept the key.
3. We now have the power to walk out of our cells and live free in Christ.

Questions:

Can I actually experience this kind of freedom from my sin?

Can I leave my cell and walk in daily freedom never to return to my old cell?

*The answer is a resounding **YES!!!!!!!***

John 11:24

Do we REALLY believe that we CAN walk out of our cell, never to return

*Do we REALLY believe that we can actually live **free** from the CONTROL of sin?*

Real life testimonies:

The Apostle Paul=

*Paul **before** being saved: Acts 26:9-11*

a man who hated the people of God
a man who manipulated others
an impatient man,
an angry man,
a selfish man,

*Paul **after** being saved:*

an apostle who loved the church
a man who unselfishly served the needs of others
a man who patiently ministered the truth
a man who loved the truth
a man of great compassion

What happened to Paul? **Jesus freed him from his cage of sin:**

Now what?

what are we going to do? == do what the Word of God tells us to do: Rom. 6:12-14

Desire is the key, now==

we will always do what we mostly want to do!!

There are four things **AS WE DECIDE TO DO WHAT WE ARE ABLE TO DO.**

1. **Recognize:** We must learn to recognize sin **as sin ==**

Col. 2:8; 1 John 1:8,10

2. **Remember:** Being tempted is not sinning ==

Heb. 4:15

3. **Desire:** we must cultivate a GREATER desire for God than for sin.

*Since we will always do what we MOST want to do, we need to ask God for an **ever increasing desire** for righteousness: **James 4:2***

4. **Resist:** we must DECIDE to resist the temptation to sin ==

James 4:7

DECIDE to resist it in the power of the Spirit of God

WHY?

BECAUSE WE CAN!!

Warning:

The devil will challenge us

BUT REMEMBER:

1. GOD'S WORK WILL ALWAYS BE CHALLENGED BY SATAN;
2. BE READY;
3. NOTHING IS WRONG;
4. EVERYTHING IS RIGHT;
5. GOD IS AT WORK FOR VICTORY AS WE TRUST IN HIM.

What happens IF we fail in our resistance to sin?

1 John 2:1

go to God REMEMBERING THAT HE LOVES US and confess our failure

ask God to show us why and where we failed

remember that "there is no condemnation for us who are in Christ."

thank God for our weakness, knowing that His strength will be manifested through it

get up and continue walking in faith

Listen to the **RESOLVE** of the Apostle Paul

Phil. 3:12 *Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus*

Lets **RESOLVE TO "PRESS ON"**