“True Liberty”

(John 8:30-36)
7-5-2026



Introduction: v.30-31

**** True Spiritual Freedom can be yours, if you go to the right place to get it!***

I. The <u>TRUTH</u> shall make you Free! (v.32)

II. The <u>SON</u> shall make you Free! (v.33-36)

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Introduction:

Happy 250th Birthday America! July 4, 2026

Today we honor those who served our country in the military or civil service (Armed Services; Police and Law Enforcement; First Responders and Rescue Workers)

Today we remember the Freedom that our newly formed country experienced in its beginning. The Pilgrims and then the Puritans come to America seeking Religious Freedom from the tyranny and persecution of the Church of England.
The Revolutionary War resulted in freedom from British totalitarian rule and brought about the beginnings of a new nation in 1776.

1. America would become a great nation!

* Great because the country was **<u>founded upon great principles</u>** (the Judao-Christian Ethic based on truths found in the Bible)

A government BY the people and FOR the people (not a totalitarian despotic rule by some self-serving antichrist like dictator or rich and powerful elite group. No, rather in this form of government the people don’t exist to serve the government, but the government exists to serve the people.
Our country was established to be a democratic republic based on an agreed upon written law code (a Constitution and Bill of Rights).

* Great because the country was **<u>blessed by God</u>**.

To the degree that we as a nation trusted and obeyed God, we have been blessed in so many ways. Our country has been blessed with abundance of resources and opportunities. The secret to America’s success could truly be found in our churches where God was relied upon; His Word was honored; and His principles followed.

* Great because the country offered **<u>Freedom and Justice for all</u>**.

We have enjoyed freedom of <u>thought</u>;
We have enjoyed freedom of <u>speech</u>;
We have enjoyed freedom of <u>the press</u>;

We have enjoyed freedom of religion; freedom from religion, if you choose; but no one is coerced to believe a certain way. The state did not govern and control the church or other religious institutions.

We have enjoyed the 2nd ammendment right to bear arms and protect our families.
We have enjoyed the right to own personal property.
We have enjoyed the right to bring up our children with respect for authority and freedom to train them so that they will be blessed and a blessing to this world's future.

Our country is a democratic republic based upon written laws that should be applied fairly, equally, and justly to every citizen. We agree with Abraham Lincoln who said that "all men are created equal"

2. America has now come under attack!

The seeds of her destruction have been sown for many years. We have experienced an assault on basic institution of the family; the dismantaling of proper structures of authority; The systemic erosion of the father figure in the home; the eradication of the the distinctiveness of gender and domestic roles. The home is under attack!

A Totalitarian Marxism seems to be brewing in our land. An infiltration of domestic terrorism has been interjected into our system. Our country could not be defeated by outside forces so these anti-american entities moved into every influential part of our system to take this country over by a treasonous minority.

An Adolf Hitler style of brainwashsing our youth in many of our public schools, colleges, and universities has led to confusion, lawlessness, and anarchy. Our young people have been turned off to the founding principles and practices which made this country great.

The "cancel culture" movements seek to rewrite American History and remove all monuments and reminders of where we came from and what we believe.

Law and order is under attack with people spewing montras such as "defund the police"
Social harmony is under attack with the reigniting of racial prejudice and strife.

A fake press and media appear to be working together with the anti-american forces speading lies and falsehoods to advance a political agenda and help a certain party gain populous favor and power.

Many believe that a well orchestrated global pandemic was designed by evil people seeking to infect people with Covid19 in order to bring world economies to a halt; particularly to wreck American prosperity and to disrupt life and freedom as we know it.

Perhaps the real target is our freedom. No longer are all ideas welcomed; No longer is every voice heard; But a "political correctness" is expected and anyone who does not get on board with the agenda is brutally attacked; persecuted; lied about and discredited; and even fired from the job (for simply holding to a different position).

3. America must overcome this Plandemic!

Truth and Freedom must prevail if this country is to continue and to prosper. We must pray for national revival.

However, we must know that the real battle is not with people; but with demonic spiritual forces which are at work.

Ephesians 6:12 - For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places].

For our country to get back to what made this country great, there must be a capacity for people to see the truth. The spiritual blinders must be removed.

You see there is a freedom that is available, but most people do not know about it and have not obtained it.

I am talking about a spiritual freedom from Sin, Satan, and Death. Only when we have such a freedom are we victorious over lust, lies and misery.

It will do us no eternal good if we have temporal freedom, but miss eternal freedom.

Today, I would like to talk to you about true freedom (real liberty)!

See: John 8:30-36:

v.30-31

v. 30
"As he spake these words" – While Jesus taught about His equality with God the Father and the Father's authentication of His Son, many of the Jews believed in Him. They came to trust His Person while they listened to His words.

This is exactly how "faith" comes into a person's life – by their hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17). You cannot have faith in Christ apart from the Word of God. Faith and the Word cannot be separated. To have faith apart from God's Word is to have a faith without a solid foundation.

Therefore, whenever you witness, always give the Word of God.

At the very least these people made an outward profession of faith (Rienecker, citing Morris & Schnackenburg).

There is a belief which is not a true saving faith (Acts 8:13-24; Ja. 2:19; 1 Cor. 15:2).

The "belief" was perhaps "nominally at any rate, as in John 2:23" (Robertson Word Pictures V, p. 148).

"Many believed. Yet before long they were picking up stones to cast at him (8:59). It is the old story of pseudo faith" (The Wycliffe Bible Commentary, Peiffer & Harrison, Moody Press, p. 1091).

v. 31
Some might profess to be believers (or true disciples) but the real test is whether or not they remain committed to the Word of Christ.

Jesus now singles out those whose faith has been ignited upon hearing His Words.

"Continue" = to <u>remain</u> or <u>abide</u> in the Word of Christ

The grand mark of a true disciple of Christ is <u>continuity</u> in His Gospel message.

A true disciple is one who holds on to the truth and never lets go. There is <u>no</u> apostasy for a true disciple; there are no defectors from genuine Christianity; there is no true child of God who will ever abandon his/her faith in the word of Christ.

"Then <u>are</u> ye" – Jesus uses His words carefully. He does <u>not</u> say "then <u>will ye</u> be."

He is not saying that continuing in His Word will <u>make</u> you a disciple, but rather that continuing in His Word <u>reveals</u> that you "<u>are</u>" a true disciple.

"My disciples indeed" – A disciple is one who has come under the spiritual teachings and disciplines of His master (the word discipline and disciple are related terms).

The word "disciple" refers to one who has been trained in such a way that he mimics, imitates, or copies the lessons and lifestyle of his teacher.

That is why the first-century Antiochian believers were called "Christians," because others noticed how much they resembled Christ (in their actions and reactions, in their attitudes and motivations).

"Disciples <u>indeed</u>" – the word "indeed" means truly. It is the same word as the word "truth" in v. 32.

A disciple "indeed" refers to a true, basified, real or genuine disciple. The statement then does <u>not</u> refer to a good disciple or a better disciple (as if some might assume that Jesus is implying that one might be a disciple but not a good one, unless He continues in His Word).

Here, Jesus is referring to a real disciple (is a real Christian) as opposed to a false one.

Jesus is saying: "Your future loyalty to My teaching will prove the reality of your present profession. . . continuance in the word (teaching) proves the sincerity or insincerity of the profession. It is the acid test of life" (R.W.P. p. 149).

**** True Spiritual Freedom can be yours, if you go to the right place to get it!***

> Spiritual freedom comes NOT from a political party or merely from the election of a particular president; It comes not from any religious institution!

I. The <u>TRUTH</u> shall make you Free! (v.32)

> **"Ye shall know the truth" –** Here, the term "<u>truth</u>" is linked to the term "<u>word</u>" in v. 31. It is interesting that Christ, who is the living "word" (*logos* – Jn. 1:1, 14) and who is the living "truth" (Jn. 14:6), is the one who gave us His written word which is written truth (Jn. 17:17 – "Thy word is truth").
>
> "Knowing the truth" is inseparably connected to continuing in Christ's Word (v. 31). Therefore, your relationship with God's Word will determine your knowledge of the <u>truth</u> which will in turn determine whether or not you are **<u>"free"</u>** from sin.
>
> Question: How much time have you spent in God's Word this week?
>
> Truth is the engine or driving force of the Christian's life.
>
> Apart from the truth we dwell in the realm of lies, deceit, darkness, and death!

A good definition of truth: Truth (*aletheian*) is reality; it comes to us as reality that has been revealed, unveiled, unsealed, or opened up. When God's revelation opens up before our eyes, we come to see and know reality. The fog and mist of Satan's lies is lifted and the reality of Jesus Christ and His will becomes clear to us.

He is the truth (Jn. 14:6) because He not only tells us reality, but He is reality. He is really God. He is in fact God in visible form. He is the personification of everything that is real.

All truth must be tested by a standard, and there is no standard beyond God. He is the perfect and ultimate source and standard of truth.

--Truth is not invented by man.
--Truth does not evolve from society's mores.

God not only tells the truth, He is the truth. Truth is part of the essence of God.

1. God the Father is the truth.
   Jn. 5:32
   Jesus said of the Father: "He that sent me is true" (Jn. 7:28; 8:26.
   Jesus came that we might know the "only true God" (Jn. 17:3; cp. I Jn. 5:20).
   The Thessalonians turned from idols to serve the living and true God (I Thes. 1:9).

2. Jesus Christ is the truth.
   EX: John 14:6 - "I am the way, the truth, and the life."
   It is said of Jesus that He was "full of grace and truth" (Jn. 1:14); "grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (Jn. 1:17).

   Pilate didn't realize it, but when he stood before Jesus Christ, he was staring truth in the face--yet he said, "What is truth" (Jn. 18:38).

   The Bible says that: "The truth is in Jesus" (Eph. 4:21).
   Jesus is so true, He is called "the Amen, the faithful and true witness" (Rev. 3:14).

   Jesus called true - Rev. 19:11 - "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war."

3. The Holy Spirit is the truth.

   Jn. 14:17, 15:26 - He is called the "Spirit of truth."

   Because the Holy Spirit is truth, He never guides anyone into error, but only in the truth (Jn. 16:13 - "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

The Holy Spirit's job is to tell the truth about Christ - "It is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth" (I Jn. 5:6).

"**You will know" –** future middle – meaning: you will come to know for yourself. You will be personally enlightened or illuminated to the truth.

'The truth shall make you free" –

***"the" truth -

Truth is exclusive (truth is not relative; ex. What is true for you may not be true for me)

Truth is not optional, where you can pick any set of beliefs and turn out okay

***"shall make you"

Truth is powerful

***"shall make you free" –

Truth is liberating

The word "free" means to be released from enslavements; to be unshackled from that which held you captive.

"Free" – free from what?

Free from enslavement of sin (v. 34)

Free from the lies of Satan (v. 44-45)

"Freedom *intellectual, moral, spiritual) is only attainable when we are set free from darkness, sin, ignorance, superstition and let the light of the world shine on us and in us" (RWP, p. 149).

The precious theme of freedom from condemnation of the Law and from the enslavement of sin is found in verses such as:

Romans 6:18
Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Romans 8:2
For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

2 Cor. 3:17
Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

Galatians 5:1
Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

1 Peter 2:16
As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

Knowing the truth about . . .

God sets you free from the lie and enslavement of idolatry

Man sets you free from the lie and enslavement of humanism

Creation sets you free from the lie and enslavement of evolution

Salvation sets you free from the lie and enslavement of false religion

Love sets you free from the lie and enslavement of self-centeredness

Marriage sets you free from the lie and enslavement of divorce and adultery

Church sets you free from the lie and enslavement of the cults

II. The SON shall make you Free! (v.33-36)

v. 33
"We be Abraham's seed" – The Jews thought that their genetic link to Abraham gave them a spiritual liberty that the Gentiles did not possess.

Freedom comes NOT to you by your relationship to mortals but via your relationship to Christ.

In the Jews' minds "the merits of Abraham covered all their demerits" (Word Biblical Commentary, John, George R. Beasley-Murray, p. 134)

(Similar to Catholicism's view that the extra graces of Mary and the saints can fall to the Catholic sinner)

What a lie of Satan!

The only merit that truly falls to the sinner is the merit of Christ and His redemption!

Were never in bondage" – They obviously were not thinking about Israel's Egyptian bondage, the bondage of Assyria, Babylon, Greece, nor of the Roman bondage, which in large measure controlled the population of Judea (though still giving them a measure of freedom).

"Free from what?" they wondered. Jesus answer comes in verse 34.

The Jews whom Jesus addresses simply did not see their enslavement.

You can only enjoy freedom after you have been enslaved. Whether we realize it or admit it or not, all of us were once (prior to salvation) slaves to sin (SEE Rom. 6:16-23).

Once free (by the grace of God), a whole new word opens up to you -- like a blind man who sees the world for the first time or an imprisoned man who walks the streets finally. "Wow, is this what I have been missing all these years?!"

v. 34
When you choose to sin, you do not merely choose an act, you really choose a Master. You become the slave to whomever you yield to. Whomever you obey, you serve.

Most people (whether they realize it or not) are obeying sin, self, or Satan, and therefore serve sin, self, or Satan.

Since all of us have sinned, all of us have been in our past or are presently servants of that slavemaster – sin.

"Sin, like the worst narcotic, is habit forming. Hence, the problem today for criminologists regarding paroled or pardoned criminals, who nearly always go back to crime, sink again into sin, the slaves of sin" (RWP, p. 150).

v. 35
Jesus uses a commonly understood reality: A servant dwells in someone's home for a time and then moves out and moves on. Servants can be hired and fired at any time. However, a son of a household is always a rightful resident. He is the heir and will obtain the household privileges permanently.

Jesus' point is this: "You don't have to remain a servant permanently." "You don't have to be enslaved to sin forever."

The Son can free you and rid you of servitude to sin.

v. 36
"For Jesus, then, the ultimate bondage is not enslavement to a political or economic system, but vicious slavery to moral failure, to rebellion against the God who has made us. The despotic master is not Caesar, but shameful self-centeredness, an evil and enslaving devotion to created things at the expense of worship of the Creator" (Carson, p. 350).

If Jesus releases you, you will be really released.

True spiritual freedom comes only from Jesus (who is the Truth who frees people – v. 32).

If you are enslaved to any addiction, the Son can set you free.

The Son has totally and completely freed people who were addicts to alcoholism, drug abuse, pornography and other sexual perversions (including fornication, homosexuality, etc.), food addiction (gluttony), gambling, the madness of materialism, etc.

"True freedom is <u>not</u> the liberty to do anything we please, but the liberty to do what we ought; and it is genuine liberty because doing what we ought now pleases us" (Carson, p. 35).

We are <u>not</u> freed to do our will and to fulfill our lusts (this in fact still makes us a slave to ourselves – i.e. to our sin nature and deceitful hearts (Jer. 17:9). Rather, we are free to do God's will and not reluctantly but joyfully, since His will is 100% truth.

CONCLUSION:

More exhilarating and more fulfilling than Israel's freedom and exodus from Egypt is the believer's freedom and exodus from sin and its consequences.

Have you been freed?

The <u>Gospel frees us</u>! (Romans 8:2) Spiritual freedom is free to us, but cost God His Son; It cost the Son of God His Life's blood.

If you have been set free, <u>don't</u> go back to slavery! (See Galatians 5:1, 13)