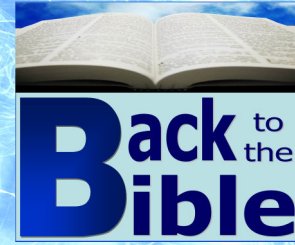


"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,  
and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105).

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	23
Sunday AM Worship	35
Sunday PM Worship	15
Wed. Bible Study	18
Offering	\$1673



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**Freedom from Sin**

Tim Canup

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**Times of Services:**

Sunday  
Bible Study:... 10:00am  
AM Worship:...11:00am  
PM Worship:...6:00pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday  
Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program  
Sunday:.....7:30am  
"Back to the Bible"  
AM 580 WSKS  
93.5 FM

**We Extend A  
Warm & Cordial  
Welcome  
To All Our  
Visitors!**

Most people value concept of freedom. Those who have it should cherish it greatly and those who do not would pay anything for it. As we celebrate independence of this country, we should be reminded of the value of freedom. We are blessed to live in a free nation. The concept of freedom is often associated with America. However, our freedom has had its costs; many lives have been given.

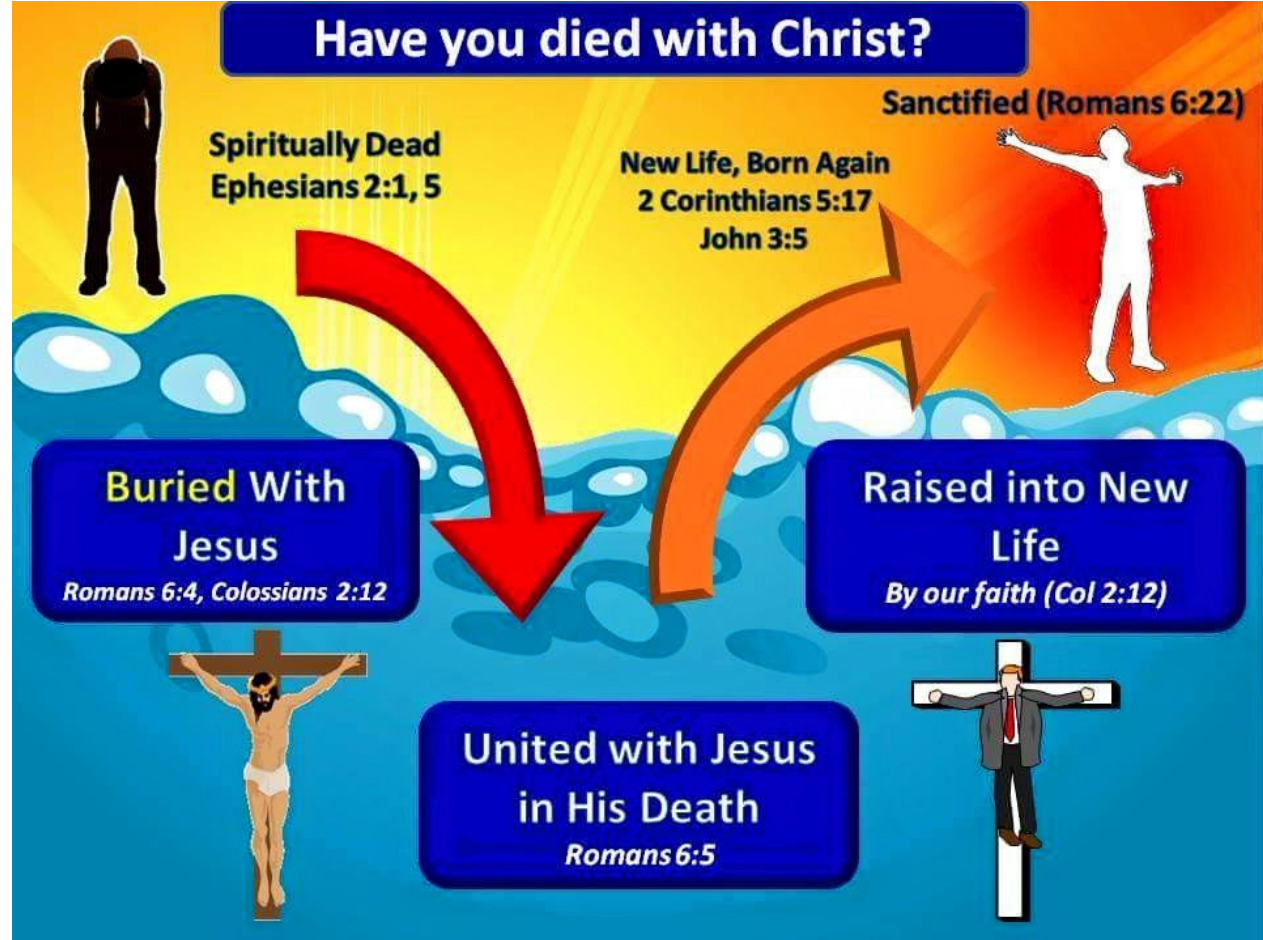
I am thankful for the freedom that allows us to worship God in spirit & truth. Is there anything greater than freedom? As great as our freedom is in this country, there's greater and more precious freedom, a freedom to be cherished above all we have! It is the freedom we have **IN** Christ. Jesus said in John 8:31-32, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Let us take a moment to examine this great subject of freedom!

**FREEDOM DEFINED:**

What is freedom? What is involved and what is excluded? Webster defines "free" as, "not under the control of some other person or some arbitrary power; able to act or think without compulsion or arbitrary restriction; having liberty; independent" and "freedom as, "...implies the absence of hindrance, restraint, confinement, or repression..."

*Continued Inside*

**Have you died with Christ?**



Think about the concept of freedom in relationship to law. Some contend that freedom is not having any law. Cecil Hook in his book, *Free In Christ*, argues this very point. He says that demanding freedom involves law sacrifices unity. Is law involved with freedom we have in Christ? The Gospel puts us in Christ. Does being in Christ make us free from law? Some have misused John 1:17 to suggest this, but this verse does not teach that the gospel has no law. For example, Galatians 6:2 “Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ” and James 1:25 “But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein...” Or James 2:8, “If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture...” Verse 12 speaks of “the law of liberty.” Jesus said “...the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day” (John 12:46). Can one be judged without law? The freedom we enjoy in America does not mean we are not subject to any laws. Those who argue that we are not under any law do so with an agenda; to do things not authorized in Bible. In America = free – still must abide by laws!

### **FREEDOM IN CHRIST:**

The freedom we have in Christ is the freedom from the bondage of sin. Paul wrote in 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.” A yoke was used on oxen for plowing; it restricted and enslaved them to do the work desired of them. No one would willingly put on a yoke! The “yoke of bondage” is sin. The fact is, sin enslaves us. “They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin” (John 8:33-34). Paul said in Romans 6:16 “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”

Freedom in Christ can only come by the Gospel; the only hope of freedom from sin is in Christ! Jesus taught that the truth makes us free (John 8:32); the truth to which He referred is the gospel. It is the Gospel and our obedience to its commands that puts us into Christ. In Galatians 5:1, “Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free...” that freedom came by our obedience to the Gospel. 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.” Paul wrote a great discourse about this freedom from sin by the Gospel in Romans 6:1-18.

The Gospel is the power we need to free us. John 8:32 “Ye shall know **the truth...**” You see, sin dominates, it controls, and it enslaves and we cannot rid ourselves of it! And all have sinned (Romans 3:23). We therefore need something other than self to free us from the bondage of sin. The Gospel is “the power of God unto salvation {freedom}” (Romans 1:16). Freedom In Christ gives us...

### **FREEDOM FROM FEAR OF DEATH**

A prominent doctrine in our world today is the doctrine of eternal security, that is the doctrine that a Christian cannot fall from grace or once saved always saved which is foreign to the Bible; there are many passages that defeat it. I am not suggesting that one cannot fall from grace. What I am suggesting is that one is living faithfully to Christ, then there is no fear of death. Consider the words of Paul in Romans 8:1, “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ...” Death contains an element of uncertainty. None of us living have ever died, yet. We simply do not know exactly everything that is on other side of the grave and what is involved in crossing into eternity. However we can know what the Bible reveals to us; yet we simply still have not been there. And yet in all this, we can face death without fear. How? Hebrews 2:14-15, “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.” We can know with certainty that things in God’s hands, Who is faithful!

There also is no fear because we are led by the Hand of the Savior. That was the attitude of David in Psalms 23:1, 4 “The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want... Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.” We do not have to face death alone; we have our loving heavenly father walking along side of us into that eternal home!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- July 4 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Bible Class after Evening Worship
- July 11 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship Service (Song Service)
- July 25 – Prayer Service after Evening Worship
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell