

1 **Freedom From License**

Galatians 5:13-16

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4 **I. What Christian Freedom is**

Galatians 5:13a

For you were called to freedom, brethren;

5 **A. Through the Eyes of a Religious Jew**

6

7 **B. Freedom Defined**

8 **In Christ, we do measure up...**

9 **Freedom is...**

1 In a negative sense...

is being free from having to fulfill a legal code to please God.

2 In a positive sense...

it is the freedom to function via the internal working of the Holy Spirit.

10 **C. Apples and Oranges**

1 **License**

an-ti-noh-mee-uhn] which is defined as...

- a person who maintains that Christians are freed from the moral law by virtue of grace as set forth in the gospel. (Dictionary.com)

2 **This is NOT what freedom means!**

11

“...the moral law has not changed in the mind of God. God has the same morality that He had then. The difference is, as Christians, we live under the internal restraints of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. We are not reacting to a code. We are responding to a Person.”

--John MacArthur

12 **II. What Christian Freedom is not.**

Galatians 5:13-15 (NASB)

“...only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.”

13 **“Sarx”**

- *“...do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature;”*
Galatians 5:13a, NIV

- *“...only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh,”*
Galatians 5:13a, NASB

14 **“Sarx”**

It is the part of me that does not want what God wants, my corrupt human nature in all its weaknesses and depravity...’the flesh’ refers to the unspiritual life of the whole person which is inclined to sin.”

--Philip Ryken, Reformed Commentary, Galatians

15

“Whereas legalism demands responsibility without freedom, license grants freedom without responsibility.”

--Philip Ryken, Reformed Commentary, Galatians

16

“Under the cloak of Christian liberty, some professed Christians claim they are free to get drunk, enjoy worldly amusements, feed their minds on smutty books, magazines and movies, and live in almost unrestrained self indulgence.”

--John MacArthur

17

“Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.”
John 8:34 - Jesus

True Christian liberty comes when Christ frees me from sin, not to sin.

18

Luke 22:27 (NASB)

For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

19 **Philippians 2:5-7 NASB**

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

20 

Romans 13:8-10 (NLT)

Pay all your debts, except the debt of love for others. You can never finish paying that! If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill all the requirements of God's law. For the commandments against adultery and murder and stealing and coveting—and any other commandment—are all summed up in this one commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to anyone, so love satisfies all of God's requirements.

21 

III. Expressing Christian Freedom

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

22 

Ephesians 5:18 (NASB)

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit

23 

Not [just] let go, let God..

24 

Not "holiness perfectionism"

25 

Colossians 3:16 "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly."

"As you spend time in the Word and as you spend time in prayer, communing with the living God and building an intimate relationship with Him, you are in a position for the Spirit to move you down the path of God's choosing.

—John MacArthur

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