

## **Romans 8.18-25**

### **Glorious Liberty**

The hope that is ours in Christ is one of the things that is both a now and a not yet. This fact translates into how we see the liberty that has been given, and the promise of the greater liberty that awaits while we try to sort out some semblance of sense regarding the abiding corruption that still besets us. We dare not give in to the pressure of the age to conform to its ideals, its opinions or its agendas. We face constant assault upon the truth of our God, and as followers of Christ we cannot see clearly stand on truth if we have compromised ourselves regarding sin, and regarding the righteousness that we have been called to live. While we know that we fail, we also dare to hope that this day will be more triumphant than the last, and that the promised final victory will SURELY come as promised and WHEN promised!

#### **I. PROMISED REVELATION**

##### **a. Past Revelation**

- i. The myriad of promises that God has made and fulfilled to get us to this point
  - ii. The absolute veracity of His word and His character that this provides us
  - iii. The bedrock of His reliability that we stand upon in the heaving waves of uncertain days
- b. Not yet revealed
- i. There is always a part of whatever God is doing that is hidden
  - ii. He alone can understand

### *Isaiah 55:8–9*

*<sup>8</sup> “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. <sup>9</sup> “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.*

- a. His ways
- b. His plans
- c. His purposes
- d. His methods

## e.His objective

- iii. We do not NEED to know, He has given us the part in front of us to do and that is enough

### *Deuteronomy 29:29*

*<sup>29</sup> “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.*

- a.(we fail readily enough at that!)
- b. We would be overwhelmed if we had to bear that knowledge
- c.He loves us and carries what He knows that we cannot
  - i. In knowledge
  - ii. In responsibility
  - iii. In pain
  - iv. In suffering
  - v. In everything

### c. Partial Revelation

- i. God gives parts and pieces so that we might move toward what we will become
- ii. His revelation is partial but sufficient
- iii. His secrets are His own to keep or to reveal
- iv. The glimpses He grants are too glorious to behold for long, or with too much clarity
- v. But they are powerful and beautiful

## II. FUTURE LIBERTY

a. We will one day be completely set free from the power of sin

i. We will be free from our conflict with

- 1. the law of God
- 2. The supremacy of God
- 3. The glory of God
- 4. and the will of God

ii. We will desire God's ways and God's ways alone

- iii. We will desire God above all else
- iv. We will be granted that desire!
- v. We will have no more hungers that are not allowed
- vi. No more unfulfilled desires, (Everything we DO desire will be readily available)

b. We will be raised with bodies prepared to endure the glory of God

- i. Made to know Him
- ii. Made to see Him
- iii. Made to be in His presence
- iv. Made for the glory of eternal worship and joy in majesty of our God

c. We will have everything that has been promised and which is now delivered in part

- i. Knowledge and vision are transformative
- ii. Truth is liberating
- iii. Purpose is empowering
- iv. Hope is sustaining

- d. We will be made like unto the person and character of Jesus Christ

### *1 John 3:2*

*<sup>2</sup> Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*

1. Everything He is we will be
2. Everything He loves we will love
3. Everything He delights in will be our joy
4. Everything He does, says or thinks will be our delight

### *2 Corinthians 3:17–18*

*<sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. <sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

e. Everything He knows we will be given access unto

*1 Corinthians 13:12*

*<sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.*

f. Everything He possesses He has promised to share with us

*Romans 8:16–17*

*<sup>16</sup> The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*

### **III. PRESENT LIBERTY**

a. Sanctification is promised and the power of sin is broken for those who are in Christ

i. He has given us His Spirit to make us prepared for His presence

- ii. He has prepared the things of this life as tools for that sanctification
  - iii. Our mental position must change to see all things in this light
- b. Sin has no power over us that we do not give it
- i. The bondage we endure from sin after our salvation is because of our willing surrender TO sin

### *Romans 6:16*

*<sup>16</sup> Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?*

### *2Peter 2:19–20*

*<sup>19</sup> While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage. <sup>20</sup> For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior*

*Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.*

- c. The more we fight against sin in every sphere of our lives, the weaker it grows and the less power it has over us.
- d. You are NOT by nature slaves of sin any longer!
  - i. Those who belong to Christ are on the road of crucifixion, dying to the flesh

### **Galatians 5:19–26**

- ii. You have an old man who you are told has been crucified

### *Romans 6:6*

*<sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.*

- iii. That “Old Man” is to be constantly put off and set aside

*Ephesians 4:20–22*

*<sup>20</sup> But you have not so learned Christ, <sup>21</sup> if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: <sup>22</sup> that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,*

- iv. You have a new man which you are told to feed and strengthen

*Ephesians 4:23–24*

*<sup>23</sup> and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, <sup>24</sup> and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.*

- v. You have a new set of desires and affections that are the seed of Christ being formed in you
- vi. When you feed the new man he grows stronger

- vii. When you feed the old man HE grows stronger
- e. This is the reason that we are told to
  - i. Read the bible and be transformed by its power in us

### *Romans 12:1–2*

*<sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

### *Psalms 119:45*

*<sup>45</sup> And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts.*

- ii. Draw near to God in repentance for our sin

### **1John 1.5-10**

- iii. Resist the devil every time

**James 4.7-10**

**1Peter 5.8-11**

iv. Be attentive to the lateness of the hour -

**Romans 13.11-14**

- a. Become awake in every way
- b. Cast off every work of darkness
- c. Put on the armor of light provided by God - (Ephesians 6)
- d. Walk with properly
- e. With focus
- f. With intention
- g. With caution
- h. Without any desire or room for sin
- i. Giving sinfulness NO room in our mind or affections
  - i. No revelry
  - ii. No drunkenness
  - iii. No lewdness
  - iv. No lust

- v. No strife
- vi. No envy

- j. Put on Christ in every aspect of your person
- k. Make NO provision for the flesh

- v. We have been given everything needed to win the battle against sin in our lives consistently, effectively, continually... not yet perfectly, but BECOMING more and more perfect the longer we engage in the pursuit of holiness, we MUST recover the truth that we are commanded to seek, to actively pursue holiness

### *Hebrews 12:14*

*<sup>14</sup> Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:*

- f. Remember that we no longer belong to ourselves, but to Him who bought us at great price

*1 Corinthians 6:19–20*

*<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.*

**1Peter 1:17–21**

*Ephesians 1:13–14*

*<sup>13</sup> In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.*

## **IV. PURPOSED LIBERTY**

a.Vindicate the Righteousness of God

**Romans 3.21-26**

- b. Bring honor and glory to Him for the Perfection of His Eternal Plan

**Ephesians 3.8-12**

- c. Bring Maximum glory to the Risen Christ

**Revelation 5.1-14**