

Freedom or Bondage? Your Choice.

I. Introduction

- A. COVID – shaking everything
- B. Old systems will be torn down
- C. God is separating people to live a life of freedom

II. 1 Corinthians 9:1-6 – Those Who Impose Restrictions on Believers

- A. No will to do his job effectively (v.1)
- B. Questioning his authority (v.1)
- C. Questioning his spiritual experience with Jesus (v.1)
- D. Questioning the evidence of his authority and revelation of that evidence (v.1-2)
- E. Imposed restriction 1: abstinence (v.4)
- F. Imposed restriction 2: celibacy (v.5)
- G. Imposed restriction 3: one-dimensional living (v.6)

III. Galatians 5:1, 16, 18 – Freedom in Christ (Spirit)

- A. Galatians 5:1 – For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.
 - 1. Stand firm (take hold of your freedom and do not look back)
- B. Galatians 5:16 – Live by the Spirit
 - 1. Bondage = no Spirit
- C. Galatians 5: 18 – But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.
 - 1. Spirit breaks rigidity
 - 2. Spirit life is unpredictable
 - 3. Spirit life is fruitful
 - 4. Spirit life is total reliance on God
 - 5. Spirit life is a life of faith
 - 6. Spirit life breaks all arguments or imposed restrictions due to fear or anxiety

Freedom or Bondage? Your Choice.

IV. Freedom Breaks Unhealthy Relationships

- A. Ephesians 4:17 – Now this I affirm and insist on in the Lord: you must no longer live as the Gentiles live, in the futility of their minds.
 - 1. No imitation of lifestyle and behaviors of unhealthy people
 - 2. No participation with unhealthy people

- B. 2 Corinthians 6:14 – Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?
 - 1. Literal – break ties with unhealthy people (excuse, must witness to the lost)
 - 2. Example of firefighters

V. Implications

- A. Freedom in Jesus Christ

- B. Freedom breaks ties with any system that imposes your will

- C. Freedom exposes those who try to keep you in a box

- D. Freedom increases your faith in Jesus Christ

- E. Freedom breaks ties with unhealthy relationships