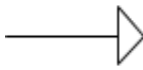


“What Is Christian Freedom?” (Part 2) —
Conduct That Is Not In Step With Christian Freedom”
Galatians 2:4-14

- Unpacking Christian Freedom:
 - A great definition of Christian Freedom is found in Galatians 2:20. What is Christian freedom? *“To live for Christ.”* What is the means of Christian Freedom? *“Being crucified with Christ.”* How do I grow in Christian Freedom? *“Having faith in the Son of God.”* What is the joy of Christian Freedom? *“He loved me and gave Himself for me” — I’m free!*
 - We have two battles in Christian Freedom:
 - 1) To not be brought back into slavery, in *thinking* or *practice* (Galatians 2:4; 5:1).
 - 2) To preserve the truth of the gospel so that people are not severed from Christ (Galatians 2:5; 5:4).
 - There are two great enemies of Christian Freedom: *“...false brothers....brought in....to spy out our freedom....”*
 - Legalism: (Galatians 2:15-16; 5:3,6)
 - Libertinism: (Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 2:16).
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 Both of these mindsets are in direct opposition to Galatians 2:20.
- “If you don’t have an authority that you can both agree on, then you probably won’t even be able to define your terms in a way that you both can agree on, and you’ll just be stuck. If a shared authority, like the Bible, does not decide the definition of our terms, then the one with the most power will decide how words are going to be used.”*
(John Piper)
- An overview of Galatians 2:6-10:
 - (2:6) *“those who seemed to be influential”*: this is not an insulting term but probably the term that the Judaizers used for Peter, James, and John. *“God shows no partiality”*: Paul is pointing to the fact that God does not choose men or give authority based on their merit, their experiences, accolades, or ethnicity (1 Corinthians 3:5-9), but based on God’s plan and purposes (Galatians 1:15-16). *“They added nothing to me”*: Paul is referencing that he was not taught the gospel by the Apostles, but instead by Jesus (Galatians 1:11-12).
 - (2:7-8) Through Paul and Barnabas’ testimony (Acts 15:4), Peter’s testimony (Acts 15:7-9; cf. Acts 10:1-48), and James’ explanation from Scripture (Acts 15:13-18), it was obvious that Paul preached the same gospel as Peter, James, and John. God called both Peter and Paul, by grace, as Apostles, and their effectiveness with the gospel was by grace. To the Jew or the Gentile, the gospel was the same: *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”* (Romans 1:16; cf. Galatians 1:6-9)
 - (2:9-10) *“the right hand of fellowship”*: this phrase lets us know that there was trust, camaraderie, and a mutual purpose between Paul and the Apostles. This was distinctly different from the Judaizers (Galatians 2:4-5). The Apostles did ask them *“to remember the poor saints”* of Jerusalem. This is something that Paul is passionate about through his whole ministry to the Gentiles (Romans 15:25-27; 1 Corinthians 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8 & 9).
 - An unpacking of Galatians 2:11-14 (Acts 13:1-14:28)
 - The foundation: *“Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide a way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.”* (1 Corinthians 10:12-13)

(Continued →)

Worship: Bless The Lord, O My Soul (Psalm 103) — Sovereign Grace Music

His Mercy Is More — Matt Boswell As The Deer — Various Artists

Closing Song: My Worth Is Not In What I Own — The Gettys

Service Times: Sundays: Pneumatology Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- What can cause even a leader to deny the truth?
 - 1) The desire to please men (Galatians 1:10).
 - 2) The desire for personal comfort (Galatians 5:13).
 - 3) A bend towards legalism or libertinism (Galatians 5:1, 13).
 - 4) A specific or indwelling sin that we continue to wage war against (Matthew 26:69-75).
 - 5) Bias or prejudice towards certain people (Acts 10:14,34-35,45).
- The battle of indwelling sin: *“This is the way indwelling sin works in believers. It is a law in them, but not to them. Its rule is broken, its strength weakened and impaired, its root mortified, but it is still a law of great force and efficacy.” (John Owen cf. Romans 7:21-25)*
 - *“How much it should concern believers to have a full and clear acquaintance with the power of indwelling sin — to stir them up to watchfulness, diligence, faith, and prayer, and to call them to repentance, humility, and self-abasement (humility before God).” (John Owen)*
- Walking in the Freedom and Joy of Sin-Killing and Grace-delighting: 1) I'm free to take my sin seriously. 2) I'm free to take God's grace seriously. 3) I'm free to be in awe of God.
 - I need church/community to put my sin to death: *“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another” (Proverbs 27:17). “Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy” (Proverbs 27:5-6; cf. Hebrews 10:24-25).*
 - I need a hearty understanding of God's grace and love to put my sin to death: *“For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, Abba! Father!” (Romans 8:13-15).*
 - I need humility to put my sin to death: *“But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:6-7).*

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of October we will be collecting monetary donations for our move into the new-to-us building in November. These donations are to cover any of the seen and unforeseen expenses we will have in getting the building ready for us to move into. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the building/moving fund.

★**CLEANING DAYS AND MOVING DAY:** We have TENTATIVELY scheduled the cleaning days for Friday, October 28th, and Saturday, October 29th. If you are able to help with cleaning of the new-to-us building on one or both of those days, please let Krystal know. Our moving day is scheduled for Sunday, October 30th, following the worship service. Please mark your calendars and make plans to stay after the service to help with the move! There will be pizza provided for dinner for the moving crew that night!

★**CHURCH DAY OF PRAYER:** Our monthly day of prayer as a church body will be NEXT WEDNESDAY, October 26th. We ask that you set aside specific time on this day to pray for the leaders and the ministries of our church body.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, October 23rd, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!