AN ENOURAGEMENT TO FREEDOM



Before accepting Christ into our lives we are slaves to sin who cannot experience true liberty. Even now, as we take freedom for granted in our nation, we may actually be in bondage to the many lies of the world. In Paul's letter to the Galatians, we see a warning about legalism and an encouragement to truly be free in Christ.

The Bible has a recurrent theme of <u>freedom</u>

Paul said that we are set free from sin and are slaves to Jesus Christ

(Romans 6:18)

In the past, you were a slave to sin
You get your freedom by becoming Jesus' slave

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound"-Isa.61:1

Jesus also said,

"If the Son sets you free, you are free indeed" (John 8:36)

Celebrate the birth of the United Sates

This country is 239 years old

In <u>1776</u> we adopted the Declaration of Independence

Our founding fathers acknowledged our Creator

Express gratitude to our the troops: "Thank you for standing in the gap for us and defending our freedoms"

Look where it has brought us

The singer Janis Joplin sang "Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose"

The more we have, the more enslaved we are

Freedom

Sexual revolution

Sexually transmitted diseases

Pregnancy out of wedlock

Abortion rate out of control

Drug addiction is out of control—costing our nation 40 billion dollars a year

We celebrate freedom

We believe our nation was founded on the belief that we have the freedom to worship God

The only pathway to freedom is the pathway outlined in the Bible

We celebrate <u>freedom</u>

The book of Galatians is considered the *Magna Carta* of the New Testament—outlines who we are and what we're made for

"I am betrothed to this book. It has become my wife" —Martin Luther

We celebrate <u>freedom</u>

Look at what He's done for you, then you let God change you from the inside out, not the outside in

Don't be in **bondage** again (v. 1)

At Calvary, Jesus paid your bill

In God We Trust"—says so on all our currency
Do you personally trust in God? Do you trust in
Jesus Christ alone?

"Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling"

A suggested Prayer

Lord, I give you my life. I know I'm a sinner. Please forgive me. I believe that Jesus died on a cross, and that he rose from the dead, and that he did it for me. I turn from my sin; I leave my past behind. I turn to Jesus as my Savior. I want to live for him as my Lord, help me, in Jesus' name, amen.