

Free at Last!

DAY ONE

"I'm no longer a slave to sin; I am a child of God"

Read Romans 8:22-23; Galatians 4:4-7

Picture yourself as a slave. Write in your journal how it feels to have no freedom. Describe living at the whim of your cruel taskmaster. Imagine him being wicked, compelling you to do all sorts of evil things, forcing you to violate your conscience just to watch you suffer. What are the emotions you feel? Now write in your journal how you feel when you hear that you have been purchased by the most benevolent person known in your community. More than that, you discover you are going to be adopted as a son.

Pray. Ask God to help you realize the full impact of what he has done in redeeming you from sin. What are the areas in your life that still need to be "freed up"?

DAY TWO

"Offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness"

Read Romans 6:11-14

Remember the children's song that said: "O be careful little hands what you do. There's a Father up above looking down in tender love. O be careful little hands what you do." Other verses focused on "eyes what you see," "ears what you hear," "feet where you go."

Paul says in Romans that we become slaves of that to which we give ourselves. We should then give ourselves to God to be slaves of righteousness.

Pray. For this day, offer each part of your body to God for his use. Specifically give him your eyes (and consequently what you choose to see), your ears (and consequently what you choose to hear), your feet (and consequently where you choose to go).

What difference did it make in the way you lived this day? What lessons do you learn about how to approach every day?

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Slave to Free (Redemption)

The Line #4

1. We are redeemed

Ephesians 1:7 (NIV) ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

Titus 2:14 (NIV) ¹⁴ Jesus Christ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

1Corinthians 6:20 (NIV) ²⁰ ... you were bought at a price.

ἀπολύτρωσις | apolytrōsis | redeem

ἀπό | apo | off, away, separate

λύτρον | lytron | something to loosen with

Matthew 20:28 (NIV) ²⁸ "... the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

1Timothy 2:5-6 (NIV) ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all men.

ἀντίλυτρον | antilytron | redemption price, ransom

ἀντί | anti | instead

λύτρον | lytron | something to loosen with

Redeem:

To gain possession of something in exchange for payment.

2. We are redeemed by...

The blood of Christ

Hebrews 9:12 (NIV) ¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

1Peter 1:18-19 (NIV) ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Romans 3:25 (NIV) ²⁵ God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.

Revelation 5:9 (NIV) ⁹ And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

Luke 22:19-20 (NIV) ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

3. We are redeemed from...

The penalty of sin

Romans 3:24 (NIV) ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

The power of sin

Romans 6:22-23 (NIV) ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The presence of sin

Romans 8:23 (NIV) ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

The curse of the law

Galatians 3:13-14 (NIV) ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." ¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

4. We are redeemed for...

Sonship

Galatians 4:5-7 (NIV) ⁵ ... to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. ⁶ Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

Titus 2:14 (NIV) ¹⁴ ... who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Holiness

Romans 6:22 (NIV) ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. Romans 6:12

1Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV) ¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.