

## Our Liberty in the Lord

Romans 8: 1-2

This week we celebrate a special day for those who belong to this wonderful country. We will celebrate our independence and reflect upon the freedoms we all enjoy. America isn't what she used to be and far from what she ought to be, but it is still the best place to live and raise a family. We have certainly enjoyed the blessings of God. He has blessed America!

As I consider the freedoms we enjoy in America, I am also reminded of the freedom I have in Jesus. I, along with all the saved, have been placed into the body of Christ, and that will never change. The liberty I have in Christ exceeds any that man could give and will never be taken away. Many of our liberties are under attack here in America, but our Christian liberty is secure! This morning I want to consider the [certainties](#) of Christian liberty as we think on the thought: [Our Liberty in the Lord](#).

**I. An Undeserved Pardon** (1a) – [There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus](#). A question has been asked over and over again throughout the history of mankind, what does someone have to do to go to hell? The answer is simple, absolutely nothing! We were all born with a sinful nature, separated from God. If a man chooses to do nothing about his fallen condition, he stands condemned of God.

- I once stood in that number; we all did. But thank God for the day Jesus signed an executive pardon. Mine wasn't just a reprieve, delaying my sentence, but a complete pardon! I was guilty; all of the charges laid against me were true. I stood condemned, but Jesus paid my sin debt, washed me in His precious blood, and pardoned my sin.
- I was worthy of death and hell, but He gave me life instead. I no longer stand condemned in the eyes of God. I have been pardoned from the penalty of sin and the death that it brings. I am no longer judged as guilty and unrighteous because I've been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
- Oh how I praise God for providing what I could never earn or deserve. [Rom.5:6 – For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly](#). My record is clear today because of the loving sacrifice of my Savior. I am now accepted of God, no longer condemned. [Rom.4:7-8 – Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin](#). My sin was thrown into the sea of God's forgetfulness, never to be remembered!

## I. An Undeserved Pardon (1a)

**II. An Undeniable Position** (1b) – *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.* The hope, security and undeserved pardon are a direct result of an undeniable position: those who are **IN** Christ Jesus. This speaks of those who've trusted Jesus as the Redeemer of their souls.

- There are countless millions who stand condemned. They are not in Christ, part of the family of God. When folks are saved, they are immediately adopted into the family of God. The saved are no longer viewed as hostile enemies or alien residents. We are citizens of a better land, placed into the body of Christ! *John1:12 – But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*
- At the moment of salvation, my position changed forever. A life lived in sin, apart from God, without hope, and headed for hell was transformed in a moment. I didn't have to apply for a "green card" or pass a citizenship test; I was gloriously saved! I am now an heir of God and joint-heir with Christ. The old man of sin died and I was resurrected a new creature. *2 Cor.5:17 – Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*
- The saved are positioned in Christ to one day be caught up together with Him! We may never achieve much worldly success, but the saved are part of something far greater than anything this world can offer. To be pardoned and positioned in Christ is wonderful. That alone would be enough, but there's much more for us!

**III. An Unfailing Presence** (1c) – *who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* Aren't you glad for the presence and leading of the Holy Spirit? There are however, those who view this as a conditional statement, where personal works have a part in salvation. They interpret the verse as facing no condemnation as long as we walk in the Spirit and not the flesh. Many use this verse to support a doctrine of falling from grace and losing one's salvation.

- These have missed the point of the text altogether. My works didn't save me and failure on my part can't lose me. (Peter denied Christ, but he didn't lose his salvation.) This isn't a conditional statement, but rather a positional statement. Paul teaches that the saved walk in the guidance of the Holy Spirit and are no longer dominated by the flesh.
- There was a time in life that I desired to satisfy the flesh, but now I desire to serve the Lord. I have been indwelt with the Spirit. He lives within my heart, guides my steps, and convicts of sin.

- Where would we be without the unfailing presence of the Holy Spirit? I don't live a life of perfection, but God is conforming me each day to be more like His Son. The fact is, I'm my greatest hindrance. We will all battle the flesh as long as we live, but the Spirit can enable us to live victoriously. [Gal.5:16 – This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.](#) Christians aren't perfect, just forgiven. Praise God for His unfailing presence!

#### **I. An Undeserved Pardon** (1a)

#### **II. An Undeniable Position** (1b)

#### **III. An Unfailing Presence** (1c)

**IV. An Unlimited Peace** (2a) – [For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.](#) Paul speaks of [the law of the Spirit of life](#). What does he mean by this phrase? It is simple: life is in Christ and Him alone. Whatever our lives consist of, the whole of our being, our love, joy, peace, and even our walk, it is all in Jesus and no other.

- Prior to salvation my life wasn't lived through the power of Jesus. No matter the good deeds or works on my part, I was still lost in sin without peace. Man is unable to secure real peace within his own soul. That is given through Christ alone. I now enjoy perfect peace in my Lord. I am freed from the bondage of the flesh, this world, and even religion. There are many who work tirelessly every day trying to accomplish enough religious activities to be accepted.
- Jesus settled all that for me when I was saved. My salvation rests upon the finished work of Calvary. It was there that Jesus accomplished and provided all that men need for salvation. We are to live a life of service unto the Lord, but the peace in my heart doesn't depend on my works. I'm not busy with religious activity trying to secure my salvation.
- I feel sorry for those who believe they have to work hard enough and long enough to hopefully be accepted of God. Jesus gives perfect peace to rest in Him! [John14:27 – Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.](#) Aren't you glad for the unlimited peace that Jesus gives?

**V. An Unending Promise** (2b) – [For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.](#) The born again have been set [free from the law of sin and death](#). We have been pardoned from sin, completely forgiven, and positioned in Christ. We are free from the

penalty of sin. If you've been saved, you are viewed as righteous before God. We are eternally secure in the Lord. The sin of our past has been erased, never to be remembered again.

- Our nation declared its independence on July 4, 1776. We have been free ever since. That freedom hasn't come without sacrifice. We must understand that our liberty in America will last as long as we are able to defend it. It isn't impossible to lose the national freedoms that we enjoy.
- Freedom for the Christian in Christ is much different. It is freely offered for all who will receive it, but it too came at a great price. Jesus gave His life to secure our salvation and free us from sin. However, we need not worry about losing the freedom we have in Christ our Lord. Our freedom was secured at Calvary and it will never be conquered or challenged. There aren't enough demons in hell to overcome the victory that was won at the cross. The saved are free from the law of sin and death.
- We will all face difficulties and there are battles to fight, but we are victorious! We have the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. [Titus 2:13-14 – Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; <sup>\[14\]</sup> Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.](#) I have hope beyond what this world can give. I have been promised a brand new body and eternal peace and rest, free from the sin and cares of this life. What a promise we have in Jesus!

**Conclusion:** I am truly grateful to be born in America. It is good to live in a land where we can worship our Lord in peace and freedom. I am most thankful for the liberty I have in Jesus. It is wonderful to enjoy the freedom that Jesus gives. As we enjoy the week that celebrates our national independence, take some time to thank the Lord for what you have in Him.

National liberty is precious, but spiritual liberty is much more precious. Many in America today enjoy national and personal freedom, but their lives remain in bondage. They can't seem to find the peace and contentment they desire. Real peace, resulting from genuine liberty, is only found in Christ. He alone can set you free from sin and pardon you from condemnation. Do you know Him as Lord and Savior? If you remain bound in sin, why not come to Jesus and receive spiritual liberty?

