

# Maintaining Your Freedom (Part 2)

Steve Berger July 16, 2017

## Introduction

- The Christian life is a life of spiritual transformation! Personal change, growth.
  - Not sure we realize that enough - this fueled the 1st and 2nd Great Awakening
  - Every person who personally experienced Jesus was transformed
  - ZERO examples of staying the same after experiencing Jesus
  - John the Baptist's disciples came asking
    - **Matthew 11:4-5** - "Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: the blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them." (Jesus is transforming people's lives in dramatic ways).

## Review

- One area of transformation is from spiritual slavery to spiritual freedom!
  - **Freedom from sins power and penalty** - not dominated now, damned later!
  - **John 8:31-32; 36** - "Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free...therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." (Jesus sets people free when you know His truth).
  - **Maintaining Freedom - Galatians 5:16** - "I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."
  - **How?** Holy Spirit Empowered, Minded, Guided, and Submitted!

## Today

- The Crucified/Resurrected Life coupled with Walking in Spirit is a "1-2 punch" to Maintain Freedom
  - **Galatians 2:20** - "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (crucified, not me, but Jesus, trusting Him for all).
  - **Galatians 5:24** - "And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires." (belonging to Jesus means living a crucified life).

- **Unpack an important scripture to see how the practicality of a crucified life**
  - **Romans 6:6-7** - *"Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin."*
    1. old man, life, nature, way etc. was crucified with Jesus at conversion
    2. body of sin done away with - in Greek it means "DESTROYED"
    3. so that no longer slaves of sin - not under power and penalty of sin
    4. when died to self at conversion - you were freed from power of sin
  - **FACT - if we only knew the four things above, that would be more than enough to maintain our freedom!**
  - **Romans 6:8-10** - *"Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God."*
    - **died with Him, ALSO live with Him** - crucified AND resurrected life
    - **Jesus died to sin, once for all** - life He lives, He lives to God
  - **Romans 6:11** - *"Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord."*
    - **us too** - reckon, consider self dead to sin, "I'm dead to that!", "not the will of God in Christ for me"... at that moment you're being Holy Spirit minded, guided, submitted.
    - **Is there anything you need to reckon yourself dead to? Crucified to?**
    - **Do it by being alive to God! Resurrected from power sin and death!**
  - **Romans 6:12** - *"Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts."*
    - Therefore, because dead to sin and alive to God- **DON'T LET SIN REIGN IN YOUR LIFE - IT'S YOUR DECISION!**
    - **Gen 4:7** - *"sin lies at the door, desire is for you, you should rule over it!"*

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## Practical Application

- **Romans 6:13** - *"And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God."*
  - "Father, I'm so grateful to be alive in You, today I give myself to You, righteousness and life, not unrighteousness, sin and death. I declare my old life is crucified and that I'm living in resurrection life in Jesus!"

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## Promises

- **Romans 6:14** - "For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace."
  - **Sin won't have dominion over you** - you are under the divine enabling of God, the grace of God, operating through Walking in the Spirit, Living a Crucified Life, Living a Resurrected Life.
- **1 Corinthians 10:13** - "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

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## Discussion Questions

1. What from the past two weeks of our "Freedom" study have you found to be the most impactful in your life? What has been the most difficult?
2. Are there any old habits, or ways of the "old man", that need to be destroyed? If so, what are they?
3. Similarly, is there anything you need to reckon yourself dead to? Crucified to?
4. Discuss: "do not let sin reign in your mortal body - it's your decision!"
5. What would it look like to implement the statement in question 4 in your life?