

ESSENTIALS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH & LIFE (*Westminster Confession, c.20; Larger Catechism Q.28,45,83; Shorter Catechism Q.2,26; reformedvoice.com for outlines and audio of all sermons in this series*)

INTRODUCTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS FROM MODERN USAGE

A. FREEDOM

1. *from* another's desire & *for* your desire (see Gen.3:1f,6; 2Pt.1:2:19)
2. *from* revelation & *for* believing what *you* think and doing what *you* please (see Dt.12:8; Jdg.17:6; 21:25; Prov.12:15; 21:2; "philosophy" and "ethics")

B. LIBERTY

1. *from* oppressive servitude & *for* willing service (Lk.1:74; Gal.5:13; 1Pt.2:16; Ps.110:3; Col.1:13 w/3:22f)
2. *from* deception & *for* believing what is *true* and doing what is *right* (Jms.1:25; 2:12; Ps.119:45; Ex.20:1f; Rom.2:15; WCF, c.19⇒c.20 = *Law*⇒*Liberty*; see Lk.8:35)

I. CHRISTIAN LIBERTY

A. CHRISTIAN: LIBERTY IN CHRIST (Jn.8:36; Rom.6:7f; Gal.2:4; Col.1:13; 2:12; 2:20&3:1; 3:9&10; 3:5f&12f)

B. LIBERTY FROM SATAN & FOR CHRIST (Acts 26:18; Col.1:13; 2Tm.2:26)

C. LIBERTY FROM FALSEHOOD & FOR TRUTH (2Th.2:10f; 2Tm.3:13f)

D. LIBERTY FROM SIN & FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS (Ex.20:1f; Rom.6:6f,18; Jms.1:25; 2:12)

E. LIBERTY FROM EARTHLY SHADOWS & FOR HEAVENLY REALITIES (Heb.9:23f; Gal.5:1f; Col.2:20; see Rev.5:8; Eph.5:19)

F. LIBERTY FROM SLAVES & FOR SONS (Rom.8:15)

G. LIBERTY FROM CHILDHOOD & FOR ADOLESCENCE (Gal.3:24f; 4:1f; see Rom.8:19,21f)

II. LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE

A. LIBERTY FROM MAN & FOR GOD (Rom.2:15 w/Jms.1:25; see Mt.15:9(Is.29:13); Acts 4:19; 5:29; Col.2:20; see Jer.23:16f; Ezk.13:3f,17f; see Mt.10:28; *yet* 1Pt.2:13-3:12)

B. LIBERTY FROM SUPERSTITION & FOR FAITH (Col.2:16f; 1Tm.4:1f,7; see Acts 17:11; 2Tm.3:13f)

C. LIBERTY FROM IDOLATRY & FOR WORSHIP (1Th.1:9; Ex.20:1f; Mt.15:9(Is.29:13); see Jer.19:5)

CONCLUSION: LIVE IN LIBERTY IN CHRIST!

A. BY NATURE, YOU ARE IN BONDAGE! (Jn.8:34; Rom.6:20; 2Pt.2:19)

B. BY GRACE, YOU ARE IN LIBERTY! (Jn.8:36; Ps.116:16; Gal.5:13f; Col.1:13; 2:12; 2:20&3:1; 3:9&10; 3:5f&12f)

C. LIVE IN LIBERTY! (Gal.5:1f,13f; Ps.119:45; *contra* Jer.5:31)

1. in your *faith* from the *doctrines* of man (Mt.15:7; Jer.23:16f; Ezk.13:3f,17f; Mt.15:7; 2Tm.3:13f)
2. in your *life* from the *commandments* of man (2Pt.2:19(Gen.3:1f; Gal.5:13f) *or* 1Tm.4:1f)
3. in your *worship* from the *ceremonies* of man (Mt.15:7; Col.2:20f)

D. LIVE IN CHRIST! (Jn.8:36; 15:1f; Jms.1:25; 2:12; Rom.2:15f; 6:5f; Ps.119:45)