

Living in Freedom
Galatians 5:13-15; I Corinthians 8
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July 8, 2007

Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.

Galatians 5:13a For you, brethren, have been called to liberty;

- 1) God **gives** freedom – Genesis 2:16
 - i) "The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time; the hand of force may destroy, but cannot disjoin them."
 - ii) "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure, when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

Thomas Jefferson
 - iii) "Let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that National morality can prevail an exclusion of religious principle."

George Washington
 - iv) "We have no government armed in power capable of contending in human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other."

John Adams
 - v) "Without God there could be no American form of government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first - the most basic - expression of Americanism."

Dwight Eisenhower
- 2) Love **governs** freedom - Galatians 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
 - a) Love will keep you from the extremes of **liberalism**
 - i) "I'm free to do **anything I like to do**"
 - b) Love will keep you from the extremes of **legalism**
 - i) "You're free to do **anything I think you should**"
- 3) Wisdom **guides** freedom
 - a) Freedom is not **doing what you want to do**
 - b) Freedom is **doing what you ought to do**
 - i) 1 Corinthians 8:9 But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak.

Case study - Sodom: Ezekiel 16:49