

“Free Indeed!” John 8:30-36

³⁰ As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. ³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” ³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, ‘You will be made free?’” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed. John 8:30–36 (NKJV)

Earlier in John chapter 6, when Jesus called Himself the Bread of Life, (John 6:35 & :48)

He also said, John 6:55 (NKJV) ⁵⁵ “For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed.”

Here, as the Light of the World, He promises that those He as God’s Son set free will be “free indeed” –

John 8:36 (NKJV)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, as the Great “I AM” meets our REAL NEEDS, He feeds us & He frees us!

I. As the Light of the World, Jesus shines brightly as a Light of Truth –

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” John 8:31–32 (NKJV)

1. Lies and darkness hide things, Light & truth exposes what hides in darkness

¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds

were evil. ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. John 3:19–20 (NKJV)

A. **“Men loved darkness”** is what Jesus said in **John 3:19** because their deeds were evil, this is generic “men” it as a description ultimately includes every MAN (excluding Jesus Christ, the sinless God-Man) but including WOMEN!

B. *Light and truth expose sin, dirt, dust ...*

2. *The closer we come to Jesus, the more we abide in His Word “**abide in My word**” we become His disciples, His learners, we learn about ourselves, that we are lost, we are sinners, we learn we are slaves of sin, we see our NEED –*

3. *This is similar to what we see in Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:3-6 –*

³ **“Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”** ⁴

A. *Poor in Spirit means they realize they are spiritually bankrupt; they have NOTHING to recommend themselves to God. However, Jesus counts this a blessed state, a happy condition, why? It is recognition of the TRUTH!*

Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

B. **Blessed are those who mourn** is a reference to those who mourn over their sinful state, realizing HOW BAD THEY REALLY ARE!

Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

c. *Meekness is because they know they deserve NOTHING ...*

⁶ **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. Matthew 5:3–6 (NKJV)**

D. *Hungering and thirsting after righteousness is because we know that we LACK it!*

4. *When we compare ourselves to each other, all being sinners, all being part of the darkness, we can be happy as we are ... but compared to Jesus, the Light of the World, or the Light and Truth of God's Word it is when we do that, we see our sin –*

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. Psalm 119:105 (NKJV)

130 The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple. Psalm 119:130 (NKJV)

5. *Consider the Light of TRUTH Jesus communicates here –*

A. *This is the freeing truth –*

32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” John 8:32 (NKJV)

B. *They sought to kill Jesus ... because of the truth*

40 But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. John 8:40 (NKJV)

C. *Truth is they were children of the Devil / Satan he who was and is opposed to truth –*

44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. John 8:44 (NKJV)

D. *This was the TRUTH Jesus told –*

45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? John 8:45–46 (NKJV)

II. The truth is, sin is our bondage, we need to abide in Christ's word, about our sin, we need to abide / continue in this light and trust the Son to set us free –

1. Faithful are the wounds of a friend –

⁶ Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. Proverbs 27:6 (NKJV)

A. Jesus told them their father was the devil

B. He was and is a murderer and liar and they are the same ...

C. We are also the devil's children and slaves, or we were before Jesus Christ set us free –

We were, or are, DEAD –

2 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. Ephesians 2:1–3 (NKJV)

2. We are to walk in the Light –

¹⁵ Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O LORD, in the light of Your countenance. Psalm 89:15 (NKJV)

⁵ O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD. Isaiah 2:5 (NKJV)

⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. ¹¹ And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness,

but rather expose *them*. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. ¹⁴ Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.” Ephesians 5:8–14 (NKJV)

III. The Son makes us free –

³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed. John 8:35–36 (NKJV)

1. *TWO THINGS JESUS as God’s Son has that we need:*

A. *Authority, legal authority to set us free, as the Son in the house, we don’t have this ourselves.*

B. *Divine power, spiritual and moral power –*

⁶ So he answered and said to me: “This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the LORD of hosts. Zechariah 4:6 (NKJV)

2. *Free indeed- Jesus’ divine power, God’s power REALLY FREE’s us from sin –*

³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed. John 8:35–36 (NKJV)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

Charles Wesley

3. *Free means a real difference, a dramatic change –*

A. *Born again -*

⁷ **Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’** John 3:7 (NKJV)

B. New creatures, a new creation –

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)

C. New hearts –

²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*. Ezekiel 36:26–27 (NKJV)

D. Masterpiece quality –

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8–10 (NKJV)

“Made in Japan”, “Made in China”, “Made in America”, “Made by God!”

*“Run, John, run, the law demands - But gives me neither feet nor hands
Far better news the Gospel brings - It bids me fly and gives me wings”*

John Bunyan (Author of Pilgrim’s Progress)

³¹ But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV)

4. The four living creatures’ power –

⁶ Before the throne *there was* a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. ⁷ The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. ⁸ *The* four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!” Revelation 4:6–8 (NKJV)

- A. *The power of nearness to God and His throne – Revelation 4:6 A*
 - B. *The power of vision – Revelation 4:6 B; Revelation 4:8 B*
 - C. *The power(s) of all creation: lion, calf, man, eagle – Revelation 4:7*
 - D. *The power of mobility – Revelation 4:8 A “six wings”*
 - E. *The power of energy – Revelation 4:8 C “rest not”*
5. *We LACK the nearness, the vision, the powers of creation, mobility and energy!*

A. *We are far from God’s throne –*

¹³ “I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. Revelation 2:13 (NKJV)

B. *Though we lack vision, we walk by faith –*

⁷ For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

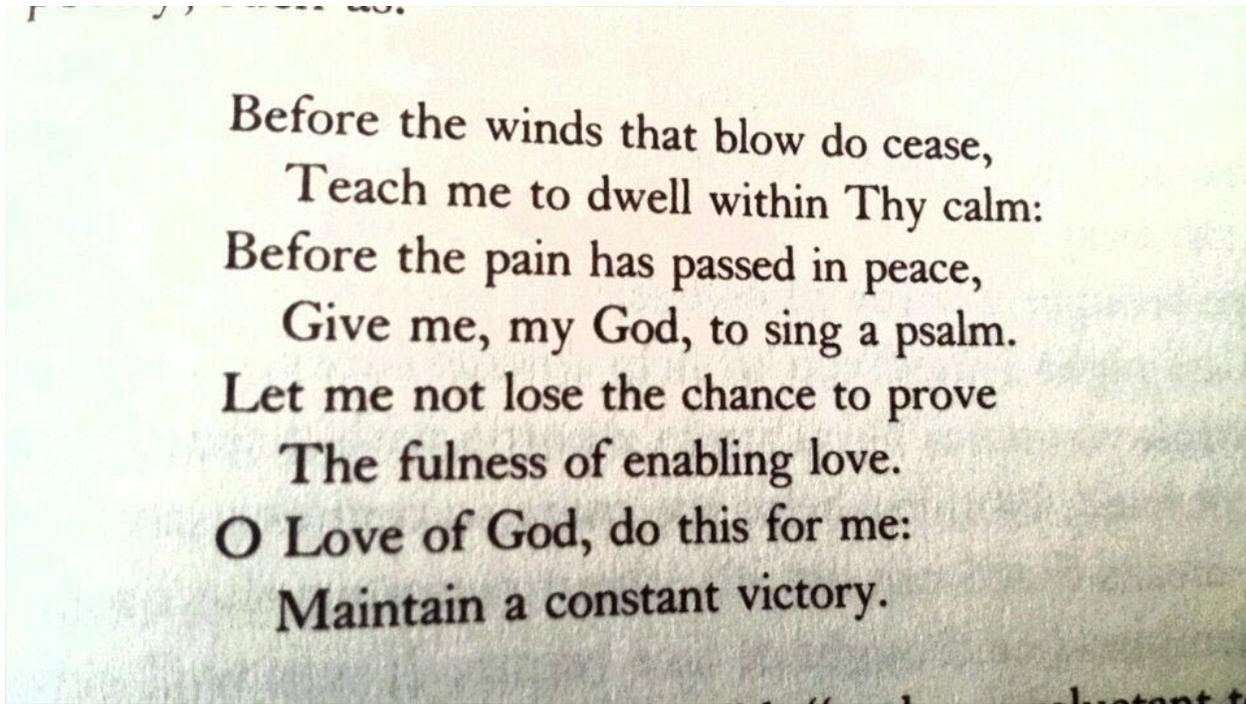
C. *Though we lack the powers, mobility and energy of Heavenly Beings, God’s strength is made perfect in weakness –*

⁹ And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:9–10 (NKJV)

The Great Adventure- Stephen Curtis Chapman; Love’s Victory – Amy Carmichael

Saddle up your horses, we’ve got a trail to blaze
Through the wild blue yonder of God’s amazing grace ...



Battling sin goes against the grain / pain – Galatians 5:16-25

Galatians 5:16–25 (NKJV)

¹⁶ I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. ²⁴ And those *who are Christ's* have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Arnold A. Brevick