

TRUE FREEDOM

Part II

John 8:34-36

Introduction:

1. The Truth about Sin ... Whoever commits sin is a slave to sin (John 8:34)

A) Sin enslaves in relationship to our spiritual condition

> This is the “truth” that the Jews refused to acknowledge or believe (John 8:33)

> This is the lie of religion – which is man’s attempt to cover up their true spiritual condition

Religion is built upon the premise that we aren’t that bad

Consider Paul’s assessment of the human condition (Romans 3:9-12)

What wages are paid to the slaves of sin? (Romans 6:23)

B) Sin enslaves in relationship to our way of life

> Notice the word Jesus used in John 8:34 ... whoever “commits” sin

Commits is a present tense verb – continuous action ... a way of life (1 John 3:6-9)

> What does Jesus mean when He says sin?

This includes doing the wrong thing - not keeping the Law of God (James 2:10)

But sin also includes not doing the right thing

Anything that is not motivated by faith is sin (Romans 14:23)

Everything we do is to be done for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31)

C) A slave in relationship to being brought under control by a tyrant master

> If you wonder whether or not sin is a problem for humanity ... take a look around you

> Sin offers many masters who are all too willing to enslave you and destroy you

2. The Truth about Slaves ... A slave does not abide in the house forever (John 8:35)

A) A cultural distinction

> We live in a nation that is rightfully embarrassed by its history with slavery

Because of this we miss the point of Jesus' teaching (Galatians 4:21-31)

B) A spiritual distinction

> Slaves of sin do not abide in God's house forever

This conversation is taking place in the temple – God the Father's house (John 2:13-22)

> Sons do abide in the house forever (John 8:35b)

A son – better understood as “the Son”

Jesus is distinguishing Himself – the Son, from the slaves – the Jews (John 8:31)

They understand Him and are quick to claim their status as sons (John 8:39, 41)

3. The Truth about the Son ... Therefore, if the Son makes you free you are free indeed (John 8:36)

A) Jesus not only has certain rights as the Son, but He also has been vested with authority from His Father (John 3:35)

> Jesus, not religion, is able to free us from sin and its curse

B) Jesus can make slaves “free indeed”

> Jesus came to redeem us from slavery to sin (Galatians 4:4-7)

> When Jesus grants freedom it is freedom of the purest sort

“True freedom is not the liberty to do anything we please, but the liberty to do what we ought; and it is genuine liberty because doing what we ought now pleases us.”

Don Carson

CONCLUSION:

To those who are enslaved by sin God offers a gift and this gift is in His Son

A gift that will free you from the penalty of your sin against God

A gift that will free you from the power of sin ... you are now free to love and serve God

A gift that includes adoption into His family and the right to live in His house forever (Rom 8:14-17)