

"Man will never be free until the last king is strangled with the entrails of the last priest."

- Denis Diderot

To the churches of Galatia: 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.

Galatians 1v2b-4

"For freedom Christ has set us free"

Galatians 5v1

Freedom FROM & Freedom FOR

1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. 2 Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. 3 I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. 4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.

Galatians 5v1-4

Freedom FROM...

• "A Yoke Of Slavery" Our Efforts/Performance

"He who submits to circumcision as a legal requirement, necessary for salvation, accepts thereby the principles of salvation by law-keeping, and salvation by law-keeping implies salvation by keeping the whole law."

- F.F. Bruce

4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.

Galatians 5v4

7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump. 10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. 12 I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!

Galatians 5v7-12

Freedom FROM...

- "A Yoke Of Slavery" Our Efforts/Performance
- Jesus' Grace
- The Rule Makers/False Teachers

Freedom FOR...

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only <u>faith working through love</u>.

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, <u>but through love</u> <u>serve one another</u>.

Galatians 5v6,13

Freedom FOR...

• LOVE! To serve one another in love.

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• LOVE! To serve one another in love.

"True biblical freedom is freedom to be our true selves." - John Stott 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4v7-8

We have assurance that even if God doesn't necessarily give us "freedom from" our problems...he gives us "freedom for" his grace, and his peace, and his joy and strength to be worked out in our lives in the midst of the struggles.