



PRAY • ADAM AND EVE HAD ONE CHOICE AND TOTAL FREEDOM --> WE EXERT FREEDOM AND GET TRAPPED • OVERSPENDING, OVEREATING, MEDIA BINGE, NEW LAWS • THE SENATE REPUBLICANS!

## Review

*Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,*

**Galatians 1:3-4**

*Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us...*

**Galatians 3:13**

*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

**Galatians 2:20**

*You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

**Galatians 3:26-27**

**FORGIVEN, FREED, FULL SONSHIP • BUT THERE IS ONE THING PAUL HASN'T BEEN TELLING US.**

There's one thing Paul hasn't been telling us until now:

***Total freedom is a myth, and we wouldn't want it.***

**BARRY SCHWARTZ • THERE ARE REALLY TWO KINDS OF FREEDOM • CAR OR INNERTUBE • WE THINK WE WANT FREEDOM, BUT WE DON'T REALLY --> PHOTOG. CLASS RESEARCH • PAUL WAS FIRST!**

## Living in True (not Total) Freedom

### The Freedom Principle

*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.*

**Galatians 5:1**

**I CAN CHOOSE GREATER FREEDOM OR GREATER SLAVERY**

*For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.*

**Galatians 5:17**

**I REALLY ONLY HAVE THE CHOICE BETWEEN FLESH AND SPIRIT**

***To live in true freedom, reject the flesh and walk with God's Spirit.***

**FLESH:** The sum total of behaviors, thoughts, attitudes and desires we have acquired through the experience of our brains and bodies in this sinful world.

### Paul's Argument (5:2-15 & 16-23 & 24-26)

- Freedom comes from right ***faith*** expressed in ***love***.  
**GUARD YOUR FAITH • LOVE FULFILLS THE LAW • LOVE DEFEATS OUR SELF-DESTRUCTION  
 THIS IS BEAUTIFUL, OBVIOUS, BUT NOT PRACTICAL... HOW!!?**
- This life flows ***naturally*** from God's ***Spirit***.  
**THE SPIRIT BYPASSES LAW, DEFEATS THE FLESH, PRODUCES A VIRTUOUS CHARACTER**
- Those who are in Christ have ***crucified*** the ***flesh*** and ***live*** by the ***Spirit***.  
**THAT'S THE FREEDOM PRINCIPLE WE STARTED WITH!! // REJECT THE FLESH, WALK BY THE SPIRIT  
 THOSE WHO ARE CHOOSE TO DO • LEBRON JAMES**  
*If you are in Christ, you are free, but you must choose to stay free.*

### Take it Home

- Learn the pathways of the ***Spirit*** in the pages of the ***Bible***.  
**SEE EVERY COMMAND AS A DECISION TO MAKE? A DECISION ALREADY MADE? PICTURE OF GOD!**
- Practice ***rejecting*** the ***flesh***.

*Dear God,  
 Does this behavior, thought, attitude, desire line up with my flesh or your Spirit?*

**THIS IS FREEDOM, NOT THE FREEDOM OF UNLIMITED CHOICE, BUT THE FREEDOM OF UNENDING JOY,  
 THE FREEDOM TO BE EVERYTHING YOU WERE MADE TO BE**

***To live in true freedom, reject the flesh and walk with God's Spirit.***