

Lessons in Liberty

The Cost of Freedom

Text: John 8:31-36

Introduction:

1. The greatest slavery ever to burden mankind is the bondage to sin.
 2. The greatest freedom man can ever acquire is liberty from sin.
 3. However, freedom is not free.
 4. Liberty is a costly possession
-
- I. It Cost God His Son
 - A. God sent His Son into the world to preach the Truth (John 8:42).
 - B. The Truth alone can make men free (John 8:32).
 - C. This gift from God was an expression of His love for man (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; cf. Genesis 22:2).
 - D. Man's freedom from sin cost God His Son (John 18:10-11; Romans 8:32).
 - II. It Cost Jesus His Life
 - A. Jesus came as a preacher of the Truth (John 8:31-32).
 - B. He lived the life of a man to do this (Matthew 8:20; 2 Corinthians 8:9).
 - C. He was willing to suffer rejection, persecution, and death so that man might be free (Isaiah 53; John 19:1-3, 16-18).
 - D. He suffered for the sins of others, not His own (1 Peter 2:21-24).
 - III. It Costs Oneself
 - A. If the blood of Christ makes one free, then one must be washed by it (Romans 6:1-7; cf. Revelation 1:5; Acts 22:16).
 - B. If Jesus makes one free, then one must follow Him (John 8:36; Galatians 5:13-14).
 - C. If the Truth makes one free, then one must obey it (John 8:31-32; James 1:25; Romans 6:16-18; 8:2; cf. Galatians 2:4-5).

Conclusion:

1. The cost of freedom is great.
2. Yet the life of liberty is the only life worth living.
3. Obey the Gospel and be "free indeed."