

Life of Freedom in Christ

Galatians 5:1,13-14,16,25



SELAMAT MENYAMBUT BULAN KEBANGSAAN & HARI MALAYSIA 2019



3 Ogos

PELANCARAN BULAN KEBANGSAAN
DAN KIBAR JALUR GEMILANG 2019
| DATARAN PAHLAWAN MEGAMALL, MELAKA

31 Ogos

HARI KEBANGSAAN 2019
| WILAYAH PERSEKUTUAN, PUTRAJAYA

16 SEPT

HARI MALAYSIA 2019
| KUCHING, SARAWAK

#SAYANGIMALAYSIAKU

#MALAYSIABERSIH

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Galatians 5

- For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.(5:1)
- For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.”(5:13-14)

- But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.(5:16)
- If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. (5:25)

Freedom

For freedom **Christ** has set us free. (5:1)

- What is this freedom?
- How to live in this freedom?

What is freedom in Christ?

- For **in Christ Jesus** neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.(5:6)

Christ has set us free from the Law

What is freedom in Christ?

- There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. (Romans 8:1-2)
- The 'law of sin and death' brings condemnation.

**Christ has set us
free from sin.**

**OFFERED
ONCE AND
FOR ALL**

Hebrews 9:28

to bear the sins of many

Hope of righteousness

- For **through the Spirit, by faith**, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. (5:5)
- Hope is:
 - Wait - dependence on God.
 - None of self -effort

Hope of righteousness

- For **through the Spirit, by faith**, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. (5:5)

- Hope is:

Dependent on God, we can only wait.

- Righteousness:

We have peace with God and access to Him.

Declared righteous before God on judgement day.

(Hebrews 9:27-28)

Hope in righteousness

- Peace with God/eternal life
- Confidence to enter His holy presence

*Therefore...
since we have
Been justified by*

FAITH

we have

PEACE WITH GOD

through our Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 5:1



Hebrews 4:16

*Let us then
approach the throne of*

GRACE

*with confidence,
so that we may receive
mercy & find grace
to help us in our
time of need.*



Freedom

- From the Law.
- From the sin.

No condemnation.

Hope of righteousness

How to live in this freedom?

Paul: stand firm.....do not submit to the yoke of slavery.

Do not return to slavery to:

- the Law (5:2-12)
- the flesh/sinful nature (5:13-15;19-21;26)

Walk by the Spirit (:16,25)

Slavery to the Law

- False teachers – needed circumcision and obedience to the Law, in addition to faith.

(Galatians 2:4-5)

Paul counters this:

- Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith”.

(Galatians 3:11)

OT support:

- Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”

(Galatians 3:7-9; Genesis 12:3)

- Justified by faith and free from the law.

Consequence of returning to the law

- Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.(5:2-3)
- You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. (5:4)

Unbelief /severed from Christ

Danger of the leaven (yeasty dough), (5:8-9)



- A little leaven [a slight inclination to error, or a few false teachers] leavens the whole batch [it perverts the concept of faith and misleads the church]. (5:9 AMP)

man-made tradition and false teachings

Message

- For in Christ, neither our most conscientious religion nor disregard of religion amounts to anything. What matters is something far more interior: faith expressed in love.(5:6)
- Freedom is based on faith expressed in love, not in following a set of religious rules / rituals.

Slavery to the flesh

- Do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh (5:13)
- Do not gratify the desires of the flesh (5:16)

Why not?

- And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

(5:24)

Flesh has been crucified

- We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. (Romans 6:6-7)

Power of sin has
been cancelled

Opportunity for the flesh(v13)

- Opportunity (Greek)- a military operational base from which to launch missions.
 - suggest planning / repetition - a lifestyle of sin.
- Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness (Romans 6:13a)

**Choice of lifestyle –
slavery to sin or freedom**

Works of the flesh

- Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. (5:19-21)
- Refer to those who continue a lifestyle of sin.

Works of flesh

- ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.
- ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Rat-race

Why are we still tempted to gratify the flesh?

- gratify or indulge - suggest a struggle still exist.
- **Flesh – Spirit conflict.**

Flesh – Spirit conflict

- For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. (5:17)

desires of the Spirit
are against the flesh

Flesh – Spirit conflict

- ‘For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.’ (Romans 7:15,18-19)

**have the desire to do what is right,
but not the ability to carry it out.**

Why we cannot give in to the desires of sin?

- "And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. (Galatians 5:24)
- Need to daily 'crucify' the flesh and allow no opportunity for it.

- The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

(1 Corinthians 6:13)

- Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own.

(1 Corinthians 6:19)

We are the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Flee from sexual immorality

- **Flee from sexual immorality.** Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. (1 Corinthians 6:18)
- Sex outside the of marriage (Genesis 2:24).
Hurt God to whom we are united in Christ.
Hurt spouse / family.
Hurt our health – physical and emotional. (STD)

Flee from idolatry

Don't Worship Idols

“Therefore, my dearly beloved, shun (keep clear away from, **avoid** by flight if need be) **any sort of idolatry** (of loving or venerating anything more than God).”
1 Corinthians 10:14a AMP



Freedom with obligation

- Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

(Romans 8:12-13)

Put to death the flesh,
live by the Spirit

Walk by the Spirit, 5:16

- But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. (5:18)
- For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

(Romans 8:2)

**Law of the Spirit has set us free.
Active participation of the Spirit.**

Law of the Spirit

- And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause (move) you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. (Ezekiel 36:27)

new ability to obey

Fruit of the Spirit

- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (5:22-23)
- The Spirit produces a Christ-like character with virtues to fulfil the law.

Fruit of the Spirit

- But through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” (5:13b-14, Mathew 5:17)

Spirit empowered love

The whole law is fulfilled



If we live
by the Spirit,
let us also walk
by the Spirit.

Galatians 5:25

Freedom in Christ



From condemnation.

Hope of righteousness through the Spirit.



**IT IS FOR FREEDOM THAT
CHRIST HAS SET US FREE.**

GALATIANS 5:1

Do not return to the yoke of
slavery.

Return to the Law

Results in



Religion: rituals/ rules

Slavery to the Law.
Severed from
Christ.

To gratify the flesh

Do not
gratify the flesh.



Crucify the flesh.
Do not give it an
opportunity.

Slavery to flesh/
Lifestyle of sin

Live in the Spirit

Spirit enabled.
Ezekiel 26:27

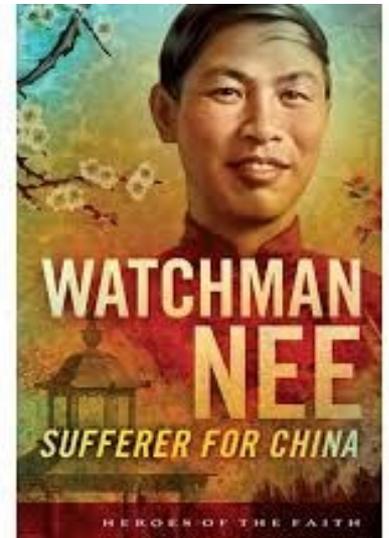


Led by, keep in
step with the
Spirit

Fruit of the Spirit.
New ability to obey.

Watchman Nee

- Living in the Spirit means that I trust the Holy Spirit to do in me what I cannot do myself.
- Each time I am faced with a new demand from the Lord, I look to Him to do in me what He requires of me. It is not a case of me trying, but of trusting; not of struggling, but of resting in Him.



- If I have a nasty temper, impure thoughts, a quick tongue or a critical spirit, I shall not set out with a determined effort to change myself; but instead look to the Spirit of God to produce in me the needed purity of humility or meekness, confident that He will do so.
- (The Normal Christian life
by Watchman Nee, 1903 -1972)

