



Pastor Doug Wilson • BETHANY - A PLACE OF NEW BEGINNINGS
THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST! - July 5, 2020 (The 4th of July Weekend)

GALATIANS 5:1-26 (TNIV)

¹ 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.*

¹³ You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; *rather, serve one another humbly in love.* ¹⁴ For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: *“Love your neighbor as yourself.”* ¹⁵ *If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.*

¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

¹⁹ The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ *Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.* ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

1. Today, we are humbled about the _____ of our freedom.

GALATIANS 1:3-4 (NIV)

Grace and peace to you from God our Father & the Lord Jesus Christ, *who gave himself for our sins to RESCUE us* from the present evil age...

GALATIANS 3:13-14 (NIV)

¹³ Christ REDEEMED us from the curse of the law *by becoming a curse for us*, for it is written: *“Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.”* [DEUT. 21:23] ¹⁴ He REDEEMED us *in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.*

GALATIANS 4:3-7 (NIV)

³ So also...*we were in slavery* under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. ⁴ But when the set time had fully come, GOD SENT HIS SON, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ TO REDEEM THOSE under the law, THAT WE MIGHT RECEIVE ADOPTION TO SONSHIP. ⁶ Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, *“Abba, Father.”* ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, BUT GOD’S CHILD; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

2. Today, we commemorate all we were freed _____.

- freed from _____ (GALATIANS 4:3, 7; 5:1)
- freed from _____ (GALATIANS 1:3-4; REVELATION 1:5)
- freed from _____ (ROMANS 6:22-23)
- freed from _____ (ROMANS 8:1-2; COLOSSIANS 1:22)
- freed from fear of _____ (HEBREWS 2:14-15)
- freed from _____ and loneliness (GALATIANS 4:5-7)
- freed from an empty _____ of _____ (1 PETER 1:18-19)

3. Today, we celebrate what we were freed _____.

- freed to _____ one another humbly in love! (v. 13b)
- freed to _____ our neighbor as ourself! (vv. 14-15)

4. Today, we revel about what we were freed _____!

- freed into a new-found _____ with our Abba! (GAL. 4:4-7)
- freed into _____, encouraging relationships! (v.15; not vv.19-21)
- freed into _____ the Spirit’s presence & guidance! (vv. 16, 25)
- freed into seeing the Spirit _____ our character! (vv. 22-23)
- “freed from the _____ of having to have our _____!” (vv. 24-25) –
...and liberated into a new _____ of _____!