

Understanding True Freedom

Part 3



Recap

Laying the Foundation

1. We are all captives
2. Christ came to liberate us
3. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth

Misconceptions About Freedom

1. The Absence of Boundaries
2. Freedom as Autonomy from God
3. Freedom as License to Sin

Understanding True Freedom



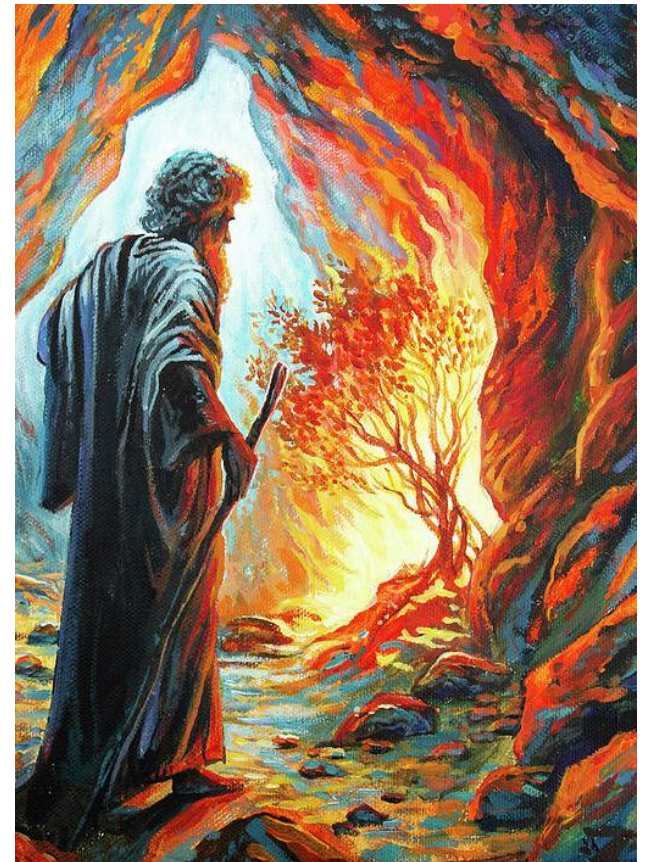
1. Freedom is FOR, Not Just FROM

- EX: Prodigal Son
 - "But when he came to himself..." (Luke 15:17)
- True freedom answers two questions:
 - Free from what?
 - Free for what?



2. Conforming to Our True Nature

- The more we become what we were made to be — the image and likeness of God — the freer we become.
- EX: Moses
- "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." (2 Corinthians 3:18)



3. Freedom as Liberation from the Passions

- EX: Demon Possessed Man in the Gadarenes
- “And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, 4 because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. 5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.” (Mark 5:2-5 2)



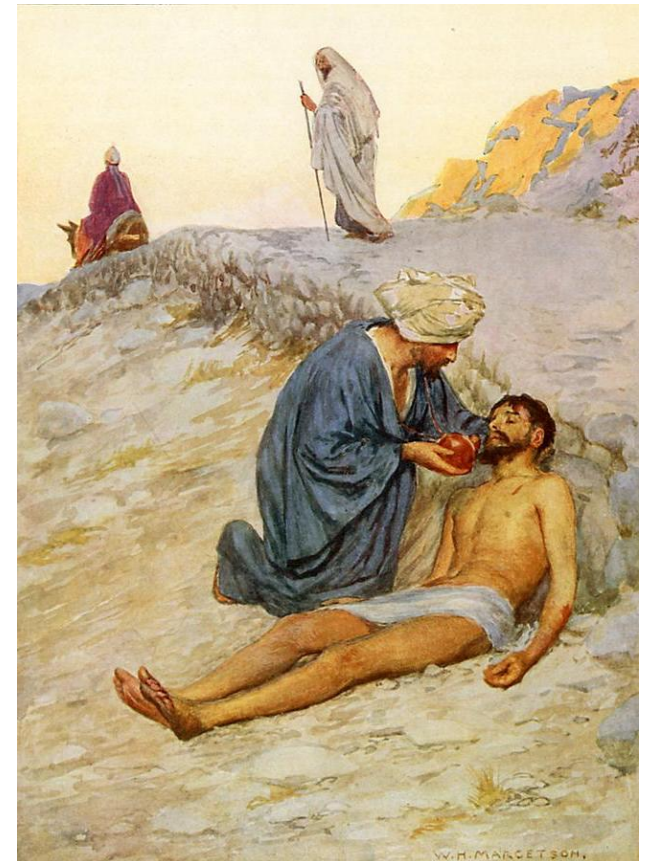


4. Boundaries are a necessary part of true freedom

- Banks of a river
- EX: Adam and Eve in the Garden
- An Athlete
- “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.” (1 Corinthians 9:24–25)

The Law of Love Over the Law of Liberty

- EX: Eating meat sacrificed to idols
- “But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak.” (1 Corinthians 8:9)
- “Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.” (1 Corinthians 8:13)
- “For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more.” (1 Corinthians 9:19)
- EX: The Good Samaritan



Summary

The Correct Understanding of True Freedom

1. Freedom is FOR, Not Just FROM
2. Conforming to Our True Nature
3. Freedom as Liberation from the Passions
4. Boundaries are a necessary part of true freedom
5. The Law of Love Over the Law of Liberty

