

## Understanding Freedom - Life in the Spirit

July 19, 2020

Pastor Mark Turner

Galatians 5:1-18

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

### Nothing New Under the Sun:

- False idea that we can make ourselves acceptable to God on our own never seems to go away!
- Aristotle: we become righteous by doing right deeds... world's idea
- Gospel: our identity is a gift from God, something we receive  
Jn 1:12-13; Eph 2:8-10; Gal 5:6 faith working through love
- Some get uncomfortable because it sounds like we don't care how one lives, no concern for obedience...

### Question of the Reformation: Do we have the capacity to do good?

- Erasmus: yes; Luther: No, until God changes our hearts
- Legalism: method to achieve obedience -
- Legalism fails Gospel truth: Gal 3:3
- We are to achieve obedience through the Spirit by faith Gal 5:5

### Three options for seeking to live holy:

- Faith – which leads to true biblical freedom
- Law – which see our actions as required to please God
- License – thinking freedom means living as we please

### Seeking to Understanding Freedom

- Gal 5:13 - is Paul suggesting the law by another name? No!
- We need to understand the nature of FREEDOM
- What does it mean for God to be free? Is God free to sin?
  - True freedom is ability to enjoy the best or be what meant to be
- What does it mean for a believer to be free?
  - the ability to enjoy the best and that means enjoying God
  - indulging sinful desires is not the best – believing lies of evil
  - Biblical freedom is the ability to enjoy and be the best God intends
- So Freedom is not found in:
  - License - Gal 5:13 - Flesh replaces God as Lord
  - Law - Gal 3:3 - Law replaces God as Lord
- Answer to Legalism and Law is...  
Freedom is found only by Faith in Christ Alone
  - Life in the Spirit Gal 5:16

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