TLC message by René Schlaepfer, July 19 & 20, 2003



Part 10: Living Free 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1

This passage has been used to support:

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But what it teaches is:

To have a sense of spiritual freedom I must:

1. Retain my

"Do not be voked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols?" 2 Cor. 6:14-16a

• What's Paul talking about? In context, his immediate application is

"If someone comes to you and preaches... a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it.... Such men are false apostles... masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness." 2 Cor. 11:5, 13-15

- These false apostles were teaching "_____ " (See Gal. 5:1-9)
- The inevitable result of diluting my integrity: A sense of
- **Question #1:** Where am _____ ?

2. Remember my

"For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: 'I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people. Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, as I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughte says the Lord Almighty." 2 Cor. 6:16-18

Question #2: How do I ?

3. Refuse any

"Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God." 7:1

Holy living is to God's grace, not God's grace

Important note:

"Perfecting holiness" doesn't mean I earn heaven or achieve sinless perfection here. It means *cooperating* with God's work of *completing* who He made me to be! It means I live with...

Question #3: Where does my life need ?

Daily Meditations

Here's a chance to spend some time each day this week meditating on today's topic!

This week's memory verse: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my son and daughters, says the Lord Almighty" 2 Cor. 6:18

Monday

Read 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1. Look back over your notes from last weekend. Which of the three points do you struggle most with? How has that impacted your sense of freedom in Christ?

How would you describe the spiritual freedom you have in Christ? How has that freedom changed your life?

Thank God today for the freedom you have in Christ. Thank Him for His love for you. Ask Him to help you apply what you learned last weekend and to be an ambassador of Christ's freedom.

Tuesdav

Read 2 Cor. 6:14-15. Remember, in context Paul is warning the Corinthians about their relationship to the legalistic teachers who had infiltrated their church. How is believing in both grace and legalism being "unequally yoked"?

How could this create a sense of dissonance or tension in your heart?

Read 2 Cor. 11:2-4, 13-15. How are these verses continuing the theme of 2 Cor. 6?

Read Galatians 5:1-9. How is this a parallel passage to the one we are studying in 2 Cor. 6?

The danger of compromising the theology of grace by adding a little dose of legalism was a major emphasis of Paul's. Why do you think he was so concerned about this?

Thank God today for His grace. Ask him to keep you from theological compromiseand moral compromise as well!

Wednesday

Read 2 Cor. 6:16-18. What difference does it make that each believer is a temple of the living God?

What does this imply about...

• The way you treat others:

• The way you treat yourself:

• The way you think of yourself:

If Jesus told us to "go into all the world", what does it means to "come out from them and be separate?" (For insight, read 1 Cor. 5:9-13).

What difference does it make in your life to know that you are the son or daughter of God?

Thank God today for His grace and adoption of you! Ask Him to help you remember these truths so that you are motivated to live a holy life!

Thursday

Read 2 Cor. 7:1. According to this verse, why should we want to live holy lives?

How do some people abuse God's grace by ignoring verses like this?

What's the difference between the way a grace-oriented person is motivated to live a holy life and the way a legalistic person is motivated to live a holy life?

Spend some time today asking God where you need to be liberated from things that are contaminating your body and spirit. Ask Him to show you how to cooperate with Him in changing your life!

Friday

Reread 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1. Describe a time in your life when you were living in bondage - to sin or religion. What was your life like? How did you view God?

Think back over the last few weeks. Has your life been marked by freedom or bondage? What changes in thinking or in your view of God do you think would help you focus on the freedom you have in Christ?

Thank God today for His patience with you. Thank Him for the living words of the Bible that help you know His beart for you. Pray that you will grow in your understanding of what it means to be free in Him!

Saturday

Please finish any devotions you may have missed and review the memory verse for the week. Ask God to use you to reach out to your friends and family who need encouragement, hope and a living example of God's love. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that we honor God and reach Santa Cruz County with God's amazing grace!