The Privilege of Freedom: New Life

What is it to be free? Who is really free? We are dependent on a multitude of things which nullify our freedom. We are dependent on oxygen, food and water. We are dependent upon our families and society around us. And the list goes on. Yes, we are free, but our freedom has limitations. Freedom can be such a deceptive concept that many choose freedom that really leads to slavery. Freedom must be explained and defined. This is where the gospel comes in.

Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32). People will often say, "The truth shall set you free," but leave out the qualifying statement given by Jesus himself. They leave out the part about holding to his teaching. Without the "if" there can be no "then."

What is it to be truly free? Who is really free? Paul answers this question in his supernatural letter to the church in Galatia. If anyone is to be free, they must give up their freedom. True freedom can only come as people give their lives to Christ. We must give up our freedom and place our lives in the hands of God. Freedom is a miracle that is a gift of God through Jesus Christ. That's the gospel.

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**Galatians 3:10-18**

 10-11 WE LIVE BY FAITH

 James 2:10

 Jeremiah 21:8-9

 Habakkuk 2:1-4

 Romans 1:16-17

 12-14 WE LIVE BY THE SPIRIT

 Ezekiel 36:26-27

 John 7:37-39

 15-18 WE LIVE BY GRACE

 ▪ Promised in Christ

 ▪ Promised in God

 Genesis 15:7-18

 ▪ Promised in grace