



Bible Study
August 29, 2018

Man's Freedom From Sin is Conditional

John 8:31-32

Man is enslaved by sin and all the consequences of it—[Psalm 51:5](#), [Ephesians 2:1-3](#). He cannot keep from sinning; therefore, he bears the consequences of sin—guilt, shame, hurt, pain, sorrow, suffering, destruction, devastation, brokenness, death, and judgement. Man needs to be freed from sin, set loose, and delivered from its enslaving tentacles. He can be free but his freedom is conditional.

[John 8:31-32](#) helps us with the conditions.

1. **We Must Believe and Abide—Verse 31**. These are the two conditions for being delivered from sin, two conditions for salvation and discipleship:
 - a. **We Must Believe—Verse 30**. Many believed in Christ. As the Gospel was proclaimed, they listened. They did not allow their minds to wonder. They allowed no distractions whatsoever. They heard and believed in Christ. Therefore, their hearts were stirred. As a result, they sensed:
 - ❖ A need, a lack, an emptiness
 - ❖ A hunger, a thirst, a desire
 - ❖ A darkness, a sin, a pollution
 - ❖ A guilt, a shame, an ugliness
 - ❖ A hope, a tug, a pull

Their hearts reached out for Jesus. They experienced the beginning and the infancy of faith. But, they are still not free. There is a second condition that must be met.

2. **We Must Continue or Abide in the Lord's Word—Verse 31b.** This is where spiritual disciplines or habits are formed. The idea is that of dwelling just as a person dwells at home. The Word of the Lord is the believer's dwelling place. This is the evidence of a person who truly believes.
 - ❖ A person who really begins to believe will continue in the Lord's Word. He will continue both to study and do the Word—**2 Timothy 2:15.**
 - ❖ A person who does not really believe will not continue in the Lord's Word.
 - ❖ The proof and the evidence that a person really believes is that he does continue and dwell in the Lord's Word.
 - ❖ The proof and the evidence that a person has made only a false or superficial profession is that he does not continue in the Lord's Word—**Matthew 24:13, John 15:4-6, John 15:10, 2 Peter 3:17, 2 John 9.**

3. **The Results.** There are two results of being delivered from sin, two results of salvation and discipleship.
 - a. Know the truth
 - b. Be made free

The truth of Christ sets man free. Free from:

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| ❖ Prejudice and hate | ❖ Enslavement and abuses |
| ❖ Division and isolation | ❖ Emptiness and loneliness |
| ❖ Hatred and bitterness | ❖ Fear and death |
| ❖ Hostility and war | ❖ Selfishness and hoarding |
| ❖ Assault and killing | ❖ Hunger and sickness |
| ❖ Crime and injustice | |