

Liberty

What is it? (Definition: Exemption from slavery, bondage, imprisonment, or control of another. Freedom, Deliverance!)

Who gets it? Believers, are made free by the truth and the Son (John 8:31-36).

(**From What?** The unbeliever needs freedom from sin and Satan (Acts 26:18; Hebrews 2:14, 15), but the believer needs deliverance from **SELF**—the flesh (Galatians 2:20), **LEGALITY**—false brethren, religious ordinances (Galatians 2:4; 3:12-14; 4:9-11), **LOOSENESS** and license of the world (1 John 2:15-17).

Three classes of undelivered believers:

1. The uninstructed class
2. The enlightened class—but lacking power
3. The consciously needy class

How can I have it?

Three Discoveries:

1. Guilty of committing sins against God
2. Not only have done evil, but myself is sinful
3. Helpless to do what I ought

The Conflict Experienced: Romans 7

Disappointment #1 – I expected that new birth would put everything right, but I discover that “I am carnal sold under sin” (v. 14).

Disappointment #2 – I know what is right but have no power to do it (v. 18).

The point is finally reached: of turning from self, and turning to Christ: “O wretched men that I am! Who shall deliver me from this body of death? I thank God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ... has condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law should be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit” (Romans 7:24,25, 8:3,4).

How is Deliverance Brought About?

1. **Learning** from God (Romans 6:1-10).

—Knowing deals with Facts (v. 3,6,9) the believer’s identification with Christ deals with sin’s power, not merely sin’s penalty.

2. **Reckoning** with God (Romans 6:11-15). (To reckon means to depend on, count on, be sure, rest assured, believe.)

—Reckoning deals with Faith (v. 11) – Faith in the facts – The facts not only in the head but in the heart.

3. **Yielding** to God (Romans 6:16-23).

—Obey deals with Function (v. 17) – Since I am crucified with Christ, I am free from not only the penalty of sin but from the power of sin practically in my life by Knowing, Reckoning, and Yielding.