



# THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BIBLE OUTREACH

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Road Ijeshatedo-Surulere,  
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## SUNDAY SERMON

**Pastor A.S.O Olaleye**

**3rd September, 2023**

### *POWER AND FREEDOM*

What is power?

Power is the ability or capacity to do something or act in a particular way.

the capacity or ability to direct or influence the behaviour of others or the course of events.

physical strength and force exerted by something or someone.

Biblically; Power is an inherent characteristic of God Romans 1:20

[20]For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,.

Power is the result of God's nature.

God's kind of power is seen in his creation Gen 1 also in

Psalms 19.

Jeremiah 10:12 He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens at His discretion.

God has the ultimate power.

What is Freedom?

Freedom is the right to act, speak, or think as one wants.

the state of not being imprisoned or enslaved.

the state of not being subject to or affected by (something undesirable).

Biblically; Freedom is the transformative power to determine our own destiny. With it, we can create a meaningful life, a life that will command our energy, our utility, our conviction, our uniqueness with a fierce intelligence, forthrightness and resilience.

What is true/total freedom?

True/total Freedom is to be free completely from any form of bondage or slavery.

According to the Christian worldview, true freedom is not a matter of doing what you want without restraint, but cultivating the right wants and living in obedience to God's will.

In other words, freedom results when our wants align with God's will.

The power of freedom is the powder that brings total freedom from sin and captivity.

This is Christ's power that brings freedom to mankind.

What has Christ freed you to? The Freedom to Live (Your Capacity).



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It is important to understand that you are free from the bondage, penalty and guilt of sin because it now increases your capacity, through Jesus, to have joy, to experience peace, and to enjoy life to the fullest.

What are the benefits of freedom in Christ Jesus?

Christian freedom is freedom for knowing God. For being His children and having him as our Father.

Through the Spirit,

we are freed for holiness,

freed for true life,

freed to be sons and daughters in the happiest family,

freed to enjoy the inheritance of everything, and to enjoy Jesus now and forever.

What is the lesson of freedom in Christ?

This lesson examines the "freedom" that Paul mentions in Galatians 5:1 and what it means in both spiritual and practical terms in a Christian's life.

Galatians 5:1

[1]Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Four ideas from the Bible about true and total freedom.

1. People have been searching for it for thousands of years.

The quest for freedom is a theme found throughout the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. In the story of God's creation, God created with true and total freedom but humanity gave up its freedom by choosing to rebel against God.

From that time forward, the perfect freedom God created in the Garden of Eden was gone, and the long-term effects were both physical and spiritual. The Old Testament of the Bible records how God's people lost their physical freedom in Egypt, as recorded in the book of Exodus.


The loss of physical freedom was often tied to spiritual disobedience like worshiping false gods.


But time and again, the one true God forgave His people and rescued them.

When God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, He was foreshadowing the arrival



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of Jesus Christ, who came to free humanity from sin—the spiritual slavery that leads to death.

Today, many people are living in spiritual slavery without realizing it. They chase false gods of money, success, personal comfort and romantic love—only to realize they still have an emptiness that can't be filled by any of those things.

2. God's answer to our loss of freedom has always been Jesus Christ.

When Jesus began his short period of ministry on the earth, He announced He was the One that God's people had been waiting for since the fall of humanity. He did this by reading a particular passage from the book of Isaiah—a passage his listeners knew was referring to the Messiah, or the Savior of the world.

The words had been written hundreds of years earlier and spoke of a new freedom that was coming in the future. When Jesus stood up to read, He was saying the future had arrived. Liberty would come through Him.

Luke 4:17-21 "And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing'".

3. Jesus came to free us from death, sin and anything that enslaves us.


The core message of the Christian faith—the Gospel—is that Jesus Christ rescues us from the slavery of sin and offers true freedom in this life and beyond. This is what Jesus said:

John 3:16) "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life".

The Good News—the best news ever—is that faith in Jesus frees us from the death we deserve for sinning against God. It frees us from the punishment that would be inflicted upon us at the end of our lives for the evil things we've thought and done.



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While Christ followers still battle with sin, they are no longer slaves to it. Through the power of Christ, His people can be set free from the bondage of greed, vanity, pride, pornography, addiction, abusive behavior, gluttony, selfishness—and any other sin under the sun. Here's what Jesus said about the freedom He offers: "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32).

"Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:34-36).

4. God gives us freedom to choose our own path.

God created human beings, not robots. We don't have to accept the freedom He offers us through Jesus Christ. He gives each person the free will to accept or reject His salvation.

But the Bible warns that hell is a real place where people reject the truth end up their life.

Likewise, those who choose Christ are not forced to obey Him at every turn. But God makes it clear: the best life is one that's devoted to honoring Him. As the Apostle Paul explained to some of the first Christians:

1 Corinthians 6:12). "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be dominated by anything".

(Galatians 5:13) "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another".

Final thoughts on freedom

From cover to cover, God's Word points to freedom in Christ. And God doesn't leave us wondering how to grab hold of the freedom He offers. It starts with acknowledging our brokenness—and admitting we are slaves to sin. And it ends with choosing Jesus and following Him daily. Only He can break the bonds of slavery and lead us to true freedom, now and forever.