

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1275

July 7, 2019

Galatians 5:1, “*Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*”

This past week we celebrated Independence Day on July 4th. This day is when the Declaration of Independence was ratified. We as a nation freed ourselves from England and oppression brought upon the people. The United States became free and a new life for the people began as the new nation began.

When we are in sin we are in bondage. Whether we have always been in bondage to sin or return to sin, we are in bondage when we are out of the LORD.

People work hard to free themselves from bonds. Many of the founders of our nation died to secure this freedom. Many die today to protect the nation that was made free.

Likewise, Jesus gave Himself to help us escape the bonds of sins. He is the only One that holds the keys that can let us escape this spiritual prison. Revelation 1:18, “*I [am] he that liveth, and was dead; and,*

behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.” Jesus holds the keys whereby we can escape hell and death. These keys are not for those who have already died and are eternally lost. These are for those living in sin now. They are captured by hell and spiritual death. Jesus has the keys to let those out of that fate.

Unfortunately, so many who escape this fate go back. I can’t imagine the founding fathers, after fighting and so many dying, just giving up the freedom they had obtained. Likewise, it’s a terrible state to go back into the bondage of sin.

In II Peter 2:19 we are told, “¹⁸*For when they speak great swelling [words] of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, [through much] wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. ¹⁹While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.*” Peter talks about those who once were clean and had escaped. If they go back to sin, they are brought into bondage.

A little later, in verse 22 Peter, writes, “*But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog [is] turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.*” When we return to sin we are returning to filth and an unwashed state as well as returning into bondage.

How can we be free? Jesus said in John 8:32, “*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*” It’s interesting that freedom is gained for a nation by fighting. Years ago it was fighting by swords. Today our freedom is gained by the spiritual sword, the word of God. Ephesians 6:17, “. . . *the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*”

Obey the LORD and His word. When you do, you are made free from sin and spiritual death and will save your soul.

—Marty Edwards❖

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, Shirley Parson, Brad Terry,** and **Denise Miller** (the sister of Sharon Franklin). **Erin Davis** has asked us to remember her brother and family in prayer.

They are in California close to where the earthquakes were this past week.

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Proverbs 10:5, “*He that gathereth in summer [is] a wise son: [but] he that sleepeth in harvest [is] a son that causeth shame.*”

We are into July and summer is here. There are only two months of the year that are fully in summer— July and August. Now is the time to do work in the fields and gardens. This is the time of year to gather. If gathering is not done when it’s warm and nice, crops are lost when the cold weather returns.

The above verse is telling us that it’s wise to gather in summer. If you sleep during harvest, it brings shame. No doubt this was talking about physical gathering of crops, but there is also a spiritual meaning.

If you do not obey and serve the LORD during the “summer” of life, then the harvest will come and it will be too late to gather. The summer of life would be while we are able to do for the LORD and be very productive. Just as the most productive time of year for farming is during the warm weather, there is a time of life when we can be most productive for the LORD. There will come a time due to health and possibly other issues that we cannot do like we once did.

When the “summer” of life is passed, the spiritual harvest will come. Will we be prepared? Let’s lay up treasures in Heaven while we are able to do so.

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Sunday, June 30, 2019		
Classes	20	James 3:2-8
Preaching	28	Ecclesiastes 12:1-14
Contribution	\$717.00	
Evening	8	Matthew 18:11-39
Wednesday, July 3, 2019		
Classes	8	II Chronicles 20:1-37

Visitors— Jul 3 (PM) Janie Cline (Park City, KY)

Bible Quiz

Jehoshaphat appointed singers that should praise what?

Last Week’s Answer— To seek God (II Chronicles 19:3)

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Right now in early July it seems that the summer will always be here. We know it won’t. We might feel that there is time yet to obey the LORD and serve Him in the future. That future might never come. Serve and obey the LORD while you have time and opportunity— before the harvest comes.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)