

Freedom

There is no real alternative to it, no sedative that numbs its drive, no payment that can buy its longing out from inside of a person. It's a longing that cries out in the heart of every slave and captive who has dared to think it might exist. Its cry echoes down across time, reverberating from culture to culture, shore to shore, mountain to plain. It rings from the top of Babel to the dungeons of Babylon, from the lips of dying galley slaves to the heroes of the last stronghold holding out against marauding bands. Greek philosophers spoke of it. Cities tried to create it. Cultures and ideas rose and fell like waves of the sea, attempting, crying, seeking, searching.... for that elusive freedom. Men bled and died, families were torn apart, widows wailed and mourned, houses burned, in search of freedom.

The captives of Babylon were asked, "Sing us a song." Sing us a song of Jerusalem, the free. Sing us a song about a God of freedom. Sing us a song, here by the river of captivity, in Babylon. The captives could only weep, and walking sadly to the willows by the river, hung their harps up to sing no more. "How can we sing of freedom in captivity?"

Heaven heard the cry. Heaven heard there was no song. God in Heaven heard the tears, and He saw the harps, hanging in the willows. He sent Jesus. Jesus the Christ, the very Life of God, Creator of all that is....and Author of FREEDOM. Jesus walked among men, and one day He breathed it out: (John 8:36) "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

Jesus Christ invented freedom. He created man with a longing for it, and He created it. There is no other major religion on the face of the earth, that carries the notion of freedom inherent within its basic tenets. Christ created freedom....with you in mind. He alone knows the complete meaning and scope of freedom.

Today I hear people say that this whole notion of freedom is bunk, and that freedom of spirit is an illusion of the imagination of fickle people. I stare at them, hoping they are not serious, but wondering if they have any idea..... Do they know the God of freedom? Do they realize the extreme price that purchased our freedom? Do they understand how hard some folks fight for just a little freedom, enough to breathe? Do they comprehend at all that where the Spirit of the Lord is, freedom is absolute?

If you need more freedom today, don't chase freedom; it cannot be found in chasing, enough blood has been shed to prove that. Freedom comes by Truth. Chase, pursue, follow after, Truth. While you chase, remember, there is One Who alone is the Truth, Who came to bear witness to the Truth. Hear His voice. Continue in His Word. And ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall set you free.

Stephen Stutzman