

**January 8, 2023**

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

***1 Pt. 2:16-17 Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor. (NIV)***

When we accept the lordship of Christ, we have made a choice to allow Him to guide our steps and direct our path. This allows us to be free from the 'potholes' of life and to be able to follow the plans that He has for us. It changes our desires into His divine guidance. There is such great freedom when we don't have to worry or fret about the plans for the day or even the moment. We can just rely upon His leadership.

Peter reminds us that since we are free, we could use our freedom for ourselves, but then we would be selfish and not in the spirit of Christ. We must take the stand in our lives, to follow Him no matter what it may cost us. I can tell you; it will always be better in the long run. It causes us to see things from His perspective instead of from our own. And it will give us peace in the middle of life's storms because we have Him right here with us. We can show proper respect. We can love the family of God, even those who seem unlovable. We can walk in the proper reverence of God, and we can honor those the He has put in authority over us. Whether you like those in leadership must not make us act as those who have no hope. Our hope is not in those that lead, but in the LORD Himself. He knows how to put things right and we must be patient to allow Him to do so.

**Dear LORD, help us to be thankful for the freedom You give us in Christ Jesus. We have be set free from the bondage of sin and death and we have also been given the freedom to follow You completely. Help us dear LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen**