

Freedom In God's Word or Freedom From God's Word?

July 3rd, 2016

Ephesians 5:31-32

The Covenant of Marriage between the husband and the wife
reflects the Covenant of Christ between Christ and His church.
Both covenants produce new life!

God had created marriage and the family to be the foundation of society.

“The family is the cornerstone of our society. More than any other force it shapes the attitude, the hopes, the ambitions, and the values of the child. And when the family collapses it is the children that are usually damaged. When it happens on a massive scale the community itself is crippled. So, unless we work to strengthen the family, to create conditions under which most parents will stay together—all the rest: schools, and playgrounds, and public assistance, and private concern, will never be enough to cut completely the circle of despair and deprivation.”¹

Marriage has been under attack since creation!

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 “And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

❖ Satan attacked marriage when he tempted Eve by saying...

... God's Word is not true

... God's motives are not pure

... God's design for submission to authority is not right

❖ Satan turns the heart of man away from God!

↳ God's design for marriage is under attack today as our Supreme Court has voted to redefine marriage and to continue abortion in our land!

The Celebration of the 4th of July...

...Is our country moving toward independence from God or freedom to be dependent on God?

❖ Our nation began by acknowledging Almighty God and trusting in His Word

See The Declaration of Independence: July 4, 1776.

❖ John Adams, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, had written to his wife Abigail:

“The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.” (emphasis added)²

“John Adams in 1798 declared, ‘Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.’”³

It is important to understand what is happening in America today.

📖 Romans 1:18-20 – The wrath of God is revealed!

Romans 1:21

“...they did not honor Him as God...”

Romans 1:22-23

“...[they] exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images...”

Romans 1:24-25

“...they exchanged the truth about God for a lie...”

Romans 1:26

“For this reason God gave them up...”

“Judgement involves the removal of divine restraints...”⁴

Galatians 6:7-8 “Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”

📖 Romans 1:26-32 – The result of seeking freedom from God.

It is important to understand how we as Christians are to walk in dependence on God today.

📖 2 Timothy 3:12-4:8

Endnotes:

¹ President Lyndon B. Johnson. Commencement Address at Howard University: "To Fulfill These Rights". June 4, 1965. Source: *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965*. Volume II, entry 301, pp. 635-640. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1966. Print.

² "Independence Day (United States)." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 02 July 2016. Web. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independence_Day_\(United_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independence_Day_(United_States))

³ Olasky, Marvin. "Halls of Power." *World Magazine* 01 April 2016. Print.

⁴ Sproul, R.C. *The Reformation Study Bible*. Orlando: Ligonier Ministries, 2005. Print.

♦ Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.