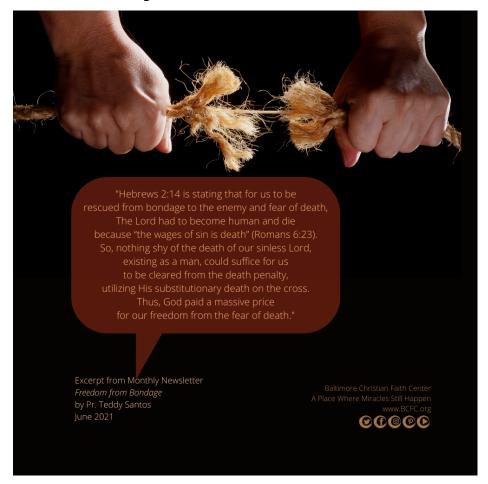
FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE Monthly Newsletter – June 2021



Hebrews 2:14-15 "(14) Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, (15) and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

In this part of Hebrews, the objective is for us to be presented with a foundation of truth. The truth about how we are freed from the state we were in before we were called, converted, made Christians, and part of the Family of God. Hebrews 2:9-11 combines vital data to clarify our understanding:

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He by the grace of God might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren.

These verses present the clarification. The Lord Jesus is how we, the many sons, are made perfect, brought to completion, and made free from this bondage inflicted on us. Our Lord had first to become completely identified with us: human. That is important because through the Lord Jesus is how we are made free and holy at the start of our conversion and keeps us free throughout our transformation.

Sanctification, or holiness, is not a motionless, static, unchanging state but a growing, continuously developing one that lasts a lifetime. It is valuable to be recalled of John 8:31-36, which ends with the declaration that "if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

Yes, the Son sets us free. Yet, an essential element pinpointing our obligation in this alliance is the word **abide**, cited by the Lord Jesus in John 8:35: "And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever."

Signifying "to continue," "to go on," "to live." We must recollect Romans 5:10 and be very grateful: "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." This truth confirms that His life saved us and continues to save us. He is our living High Priest. "I will never leave nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5).

Our charge, then, is to maintain faithfulness to Christ, striving to subdue sin. As this transpires, He, as our High Priest, continues to retain us from backsliding into the enemy's bondage. Consequently, the work of The Lord makes us one with Him and keeps us one with Him.

Hebrews 2:14 is stating that for us to be rescued from bondage to the enemy and fear of death, The Lord had to become human and die because "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). So, nothing shy of the death of our sinless Lord, existing as a man, could suffice for us to be cleared from the death penalty, utilizing His substitutionary death on the cross. Thus, God paid a massive price for our freedom from the fear of death.

This was not His only colossal fulfilment. Additionally, He lived sinlessly, and in doing so, defeated the enemy, who had the power of death, since he lost the struggle to provoke Jesus to sin. The enemy had won this conflict over Adam and Eve and all their children, but the Lord Jesus snatched the weapon of death from the enemy's hands. As a result, that weapon no longer hovers over us because we are one with Christ! What a Blessed Assurance - Jesus is mine!

At His service, Pr. Teddy Santos