

There Is Freedom

5-24-26

2 Corinthians 3:17 (ESV)

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Religion has a real problem with freedom. Both Christians and non-Christians believe we need an outside set of rules to earn God's acceptance. Therefore, in 2 Corinthians 3:7-18 God finds it necessary to explain the difference between the OT covenant of the Law and the NT covenant of the Spirit. God calls the OT covenant, the ministry of death and condemnation, and HE calls the NT covenant, the ministry of the Spirit and righteousness. God uses Exodus 34:29-35 as an example to explain the difference. We see in Exodus that after Moses would spend time with God, his face would shine and that made the people afraid. So, Moses would put a veil over his face until the shine faded away. Then God brings us to the current time and makes an application. Now God says that the people have a veil over their faces, and they cannot see the glory of God when the OT is read.

Now God drops a “bomb” in verse 14, “Only through Christ is the veil taken away.”

2 Corinthians 3:15–16 (ESV) – God Continues:

¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶ But when one turns to Jesus, the veil is removed.

Jesus removes the veil from our faces. Now we have the clear explanation of 2 Corinthians 3:17:

2 Corinthians 3:17 (ESV)

Now Jesus is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of Jesus is, there is freedom.

Only when the Spirit of Jesus is present, is there freedom. We are free under the ministry of the Spirit. This is Biblical Christian reality as God intended. Now we understand freedom:

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)

And we all, with unveiled face (note unveiled face), beholding the glory of Jesus (now we can see clearly), are being transformed (metamorphosis – after salvation, we are being transformed from a caterpillar to a butterfly.) into the same image (as Jesus) from one degree of glory to another. POWER:

For this comes from Jesus who is the Spirit.

Thus, where the Spirit of Jesus is, there is transformation and freedom. See the work of the Spirit in freedom.

Galatians 5:16 (ESV)

But I say, be occupied by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:18 (ESV)

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 5:25 (ESV)

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

There is freedom. Just keep the main thing the main thing to remove the veil and be occupied with the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)

For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.