

LICENSED TO STEAL

Today I want to talk to you about freedom.

- The church is made up of people... The Bible describes the church as ...**"Temples made without hands"**... Each person a **"living stone built up together into a spiritual house"**... WE are **"to offer spiritual sacrifices and praises"**...
- The church is built upon the **foundational doctrines** of the **"Apostles and prophets"**... **Jesus Christ** being the **"chief cornerstone"**... We are **"fitly framed"** together in Him.

The kingdom of God is a place of freedom.

Luke 4:18 ... He has sent me to proclaim freedom to the captives... (NIV)

Galatians 5:13... we are called to be free.

1 Peter 2:16...Live as free men...

John 8:36... if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. NIV

The Nature of His kingdom

The nature of His Kingdom is Spiritual and eternal.

The freedom we are talking about today is not political... geographical or national it is first Spiritual and eternal... then affecting the natural and physical realm

2 Chronicles 7:14 – If my people who are called by my name will **humble** themselves and **pray** and **seek** my face and **turn** from their wicked ways ...Then I will **hear** from heaven and **forgive** their sin and **heal** their land. (NIV)

The kingdom transcends time and space. Greater than nations & political schemes. The nature of His kingdom is not of this world, but absolutely effects this world through His church.

Freedom for the born again Christian is three fold

- Freedom from the penalty of sin
- Freedom from the power of sin
- Freedom from the presence of sin

The Message

The message of the kingdom was the first given by John the Baptist

Matthew 3:2 – “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” (NIV)

Matthew 4:17 - Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (NIV)

Acts 2:38 – Repent and be baptized every one of you for the remission of your sins... (NIV)

TCC- there is a message of freedom and it starts with the word **repent... believe the Gospel!!**

Matthew 4:23 – Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and *healing every disease* and sickness among the people. (NIV)

Matthew 13:24 – The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

Matthew 13:31 – The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed... (NIV)

Matthew 13:33 – The kingdom of heaven is like yeast ...(NIV)

Matthew 13:44 – "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. (NIV)

Matthew 13:45 – “The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls... (NIV)

Matthew 13:47 – The kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish... (NIV)

Luke 12:32 – It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom... (NKJV)

Matthew 24:14 – And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations and then the end will come. (NIV)

The Mission

There is a responsibility to the freedom given

Matthew 16:19-20 – I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (NIV)

TCC – Kingdom authority comes with kingdom responsibility

Binding and loosing authority also implies an adversary to the kingdom

- **John 10:10** – He is the one who comes to steal kill and destroy the lives of people
- **Luke 13:16** – Jesus refers to the woman he just healed as a daughter of Abraham**whom Satan bound**
- **Acts 10:27**- He went about doing good healing all who were **oppressed by the devil...**
- **Ephesians 6** – says we absolutely fight against principalities and powers, rulers of darkness

Matthew 12:29 ...how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house

Licensed to steal

TCC-We are to...enter the strong man's house and carry off his possessions

Licensed to steal – We must recognize we are.... Fully armed and dangerous... and authorized to enter the enemy's camp and take back what he has stolen.

Luke 10:19 – I give unto you power... over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall **by any means** hurt you... (KJV)

The Means

Mark 16:15 – Go and preach the Gospel to every creature...

Matthew 24:14 – And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations and then the end will come. (NIV)

The kingdom of God is within you

Acts 1:8 – You shall receive power after the Holy Spirit is come upon you.

Romans 16:20 – Shortly Satan will be crushed under your feet

The price has been paid

The authority transferred

The message is: It is Gods good pleasure to give you the kingdom

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 ...where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (NIV)

Every time someone is saved, healed, delivered, or set free in anyway - we plunder his house.