

**Live Free Or
Die Trying**

You ought to live your life with such freedom and joy that uptight Christians will doubt your salvation.

– Steve Brown

Galatians 5:1

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Our former state is portrayed as slavery,
Jesus Christ as a liberator, conversion as
an act of emancipation and the Christian
life as a life of freedom.

– John Stott

Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our **freedom** that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into **slavery**

– Galatians 2:4

Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept
circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage
to you.

– Galatians 6:2

Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

– Acts 15:10-11

For freedom Christ has set us free (**indicative**);
stand firm therefore (**imperative**), and do not
submit (**imperative**) again to a yoke of slavery.

– Galatians 5:1

The imperative, “Stand firm,” not only does not contradict the indicative, “Christ has set us free,” but in fact results from it. Because of who God is and what he has done for believers in Jesus Christ, Christians are commanded to “become what they are,” that is, to make visible in the earthly realm of their human existence what God has already declared and sealed in the divine verdict of justification.

– Timothy George

Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.

– Colossians 2:16-17

who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.

– 1 Timothy 4:3-5

We insist that God must surely lead everyone as we believe He has led us. We refuse to allow God the freedom to deal with each of us as individuals. When we think like that, we are legalistic.

– Jerry Bridges

Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

– Romans 14:4

Proverbs 4:23

Keep your **heart** with all vigilance, for
from it flow the springs of life

Psalm 139: 23-24

Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts! And see
if there be any grievous way in me, and
lead me in the way everlasting

In the last analysis it is not the temptations that meet us on the streets that determine our conduct; it is the heart of the man who faces them.

– Martyn Lloyd Jones

Romans 14:5-8

One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and

gives thanks to God. For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:20-22

Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble. The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves.

Romans 14:23

But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

There really is something neurotic about Christians who spend most of their time trying desperately to please a God who is already very pleased. They don't have any freedom, and they sometimes take away the freedom of others.

– Steve Brown