

OUR MISSION

We exist to be a refuge, drawing ourselves and others into a genuine relationship with Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HILLSIDE KIDS: We have more children in this church than we have ever had. Consider volunteering one Sunday a month. See Laura for details as we invest in our children's growing faith. The only places where our children hear about Jesus today is at home or church. Help us make a difference in their faith.

JOIN A GROUP: Our Tuesday prayer group and Wednesday Bible studies meet every week! Prayer is at 6:30pm on Tuesdays and our Bible Study meets on Wednesdays with childcare. We will finish Romans 4 this week.

ANNUAL READING: Our annual reading continues. This week's reading is: Psalms 59 - 68



HILLSIDE CHURCH

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FACEBOOK PAGE



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WORSHIP PLAYLIST



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CONNECT@HILLSIDETCHURCHTN.ORG
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OUR WEBSITE

HILLSIDETCHURCHTN.ORG

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

Galatians 2:1-10
July 23rd 2023

INTRODUCTION

freedom (6658)

The state of liberty that results from not being oppressed or in bondage. Scripture stresses that human beings lack freedom on account of sin, but that **faith in Jesus Christ brings freedom** from the power of sin and the law. —*Dictionary of Bible Themes*

We still imagine today that freedom is either legislated or in our hands, but freedom will always be **in Christ**.

AVOIDING SLAVERY Galatians 2:1-5

-The presence of Barnabas the Jew and Titus the Greek, together as brothers, was a picture of what the **Law could not do**, yet what **God's grace had accomplished**.

-**Titus** is a visual representation of a believer in God **completely unmarked** by the Law.

-The issue of circumcision answered the prevailing question: Is the goal of the faith to make people more like Jews or **more like Jesus?**

-Paul had not seen the apostles in 14 years! The only way they have the **same Gospel** is because they were **servicing the same God**.

-The point of this gathering to confirm the **Gospel** is to prove that **God and God alone has given revelation** as what it means **to be saved**.

-The truth is that Jews and Gentiles, **all races, backgrounds, all manner of sinners**, are accepted **by God** on the same terms: **through faith in Jesus Christ**.

-In Christ determining our identity **as priests**, we understand that we have been made worthy to **appear before God**.

-There is so much at stake today as other gospels continue to emerge in our time. Only those that see the **immense value** of the **genuine Gospel** will stand for it.

REAL FREEDOM Galatians 2:6-10

Acts 15:28–29 (ESV) For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: ²⁹ that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from **sexual immorality**. If you keep yourselves from these, **you will do well**. Farewell."

What do you consider freedom to be?

-For the believer, much of grace **invokes the understanding** that with freedom comes **responsibility**.

-For the believer, because Christ has set us free, our **testimony** is found in what we do or refuse to do with the freedom grace offers.

Acts 4:13 (ESV) Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were **uneducated, common men**, they were astonished. And they recognized that **they had been with Jesus**.

"The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity. I will avow that I then believed, and now believe, that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God." ~ **John Adams**

"In proportion as the genuine effects of Christianity are diminished in any nation... in the same proportion will the people of that nation recede from the blessings of genuine freedom... Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government – and all the blessings which flow from them – must fall with them." ~ **Jedidiah Morse**

"[T]he Christian religion... is the basis, or rather the source, of all genuine freedom in government... I am persuaded that no civil government of a republican form can exist and be durable in which the principles of Christianity have not a controlling influence." ~ **Noah Webster**

-Despite modern opinions on the **Bible** or our disconnection from our **freedom in Christ**, God will never change. It is only by His salvation, only His will, and only His Gospel that will **save and lead us**.

-These days, we are habitually choosing our **vices and beliefs** and we wonder why we don't feel free.

"I know that we are in trouble. I know that there are things happening in our society that if you look at Romans chapter one or if you look at history, these are the kinds of things that happen toward the end of a society's lifespan and unless things change dramatically, what we are going to see is going to be catastrophic." ~ **Voddie Baucham**

Additional Verses: Revelation 7:9, 5:10

Is the Gospel that saves lives, changes hearts, and restores the hopeless silent, or are we?