

The Liberator

John 8:31-37; 52-59

“Modern people value choice rather than good choice... freedom is “not the power of doing what we like but the right of being able to do what we ought.”

—Os Guinness/ Lord Acton

“If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples.  
32 You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

(v.33) We've never been a slave to anyone!" How can you say, "You will become free?"

“We’re Abraham’s descendents”

(v.34) Jesus responded, "I assure you: Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin."

SIN LEADS TO SOUL SLAVERY, WHICH IS SO SUBTLE

It's time to see what I can do  
To test the limits and break through  
No right, no wrong, no rules for me,  
I'm free!

—Elsa, Frozen



That feeling of having to obey every impulse and gratify every desire seems to me to be a strange kind of slavery. Nobody talks about it as such, though.

—David Foster Wallace

(v.34) Jesus responded, "I assure you: Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin."

(v.32) You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

(v.31-32)

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. 32 You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

'Continue' = Abide/Make your home (Gr. Meno)

(v.35-36) A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever. 36 Therefore, if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.

"I assure you: Before Abraham was, I am." 59 At that, they picked up stones to throw at Him. But Jesus was hidden and went out of the temple complex.

ABIDING IN SONSHIP FREES US FROM SLAVERY



"Come to me and live in a home with a Father who loves you."

(v.35-36) A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever. 36 Therefore, if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.

“Where are your condemners? Neither do I condemn you.  
Go and sin no more.”

—Jesus

The goal of slavery was to rob a person and a people of who they are. To make them forget their identity, to strip away family ties, to stamp out any memories and relationships that could give one strength and purpose. To extinguish the spark of humanity and replace it with numbness, despair and faceless productivity.

## Question For Reflection

Dear Father, I'm sorry for making my home elsewhere. Show me what means for me to make my home in Jesus. I turn to you now. Thank you for making me a son/daughter through faith.