



FRANKLIN ROAD

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NEWSLETTER

JULY 6, 2015

FREE TO SIN?



THIS PAST WEEKEND WE CELEBRATED OUR NATION'S FREEDOM AND WE HAVE MUCH FOR WHICH TO BE THANKFUL. WE ALSO HAVE CAUSE FOR CONCERN FOR AMERICAN'S SEEM DETERMINED TO PRACTICE MORE AND MORE SIN. DEPRAVED HUMANS BELIEVE THEY ARE FREE TO KILL AN UNWANTED CHILD AND PRACTICE SODOMY ALL WITH GOVERNMENT APPROVAL. INDEED WE ARE FREE TO SIN BUT WE ARE NOT FREE FROM JUDGMENT.

EZEKIEL 18:20 TELLS US THAT THE SOUL WHO SINS DIES, AND ROMANS 6:23 REMINDS US THAT THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH. THOSE WITHOUT CHRIST WILL SPEND AN ETERNITY SEPARATED FROM HIM, CONDEMNED TO ETERNAL PUNISHMENT IN HELL. THOSE WHO HAVE ACCEPTED CHRIST'S SALVATION ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM JUDGMENT. GOD'S WORD INDICATES THAT "EACH ONE OF US WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF TO GOD." (ROMANS 14:12) AND THAT WE MUST ALL APPEAR BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST (II CORINTHIANS 5:10).

THANKFULLY OUR SIN IS NOT UNPARDONABLE. THE GOOD NEWS OF ROMANS 5:8-9 TELLS US "BUT GOD DEMONSTRATES HIS OWN LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US. MUCH MORE THEN, HAVING NOW BEEN JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD, WE SHALL BE SAVED FROM THE WRATH OF GOD THROUGH HIM." [NASB]. FURTHERMORE, SINCE BELIEVERS ARE NOT ALWAYS BEHAVERS WE HAVE THE PROMISE OF A FAITHFUL FORGIVER WHO WILL CLEANSE US FROM ALL CONFESSED SINS. (I JOHN 1:9).

AS BELIEVERS SEEKING TO WALK WITH GOD, OUR SIN SHOULD NOT DEFINE US. "THEREFORE DO NOT LET SIN REIGN IN YOUR MORTAL BODY SO THAT YOU OBEY ITS LUSTS, AND DO NOT GO ON PRESENTING THE MEMBERS OF YOUR BODY TO SIN AS INSTRUMENTS OF UN-RIGHTEOUSNESS; BUT PRESENT YOURSELVES TO GOD AS THOSE ALIVE FROM THE DEAD, AND YOUR MEMBERS AS INSTRUMENTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS TO GOD." (ROMANS 6:12-13). GALATIANS 5:1 INFORMS US THAT "IT WAS FOR FREEDOM THAT CHRIST SET US FREE; THEREFORE KEEP STANDING FIRM AND DO NOT BE SUBJECT AGAIN TO THE YOKE OF SLAVERY." AND GALATIANS 5:13 REMINDS US THAT WE THOUGH WE ARE CALLED TO FREEDOM WE MUST NOT TURN THAT FREEDOM INTO AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FLESH. IN FACT, II CORINTHIANS 10:5 INSTRUCTS US TO TAKE EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE TO THE OBEDIENCE OF CHRIST.

THANK GOD FOR OUR FREEDOM. THANK GOD TOO THAT WHERE SIN ABOUNDED, GRACE ABOUNDED ALL THE MORE. (ROMANS 5:20).

LOOKING UP,
Pastor Chuck Circle