

A Sacrifice for the Cause of Freedom

An Independence Day Message



From the Exodus to the Declaration of Independence to the Arab Spring, humanity has pursued the idea of freedom through the ages. We'll do nearly anything to claim, exercise, and defend our independence. We value it more than life itself. We elevate it above all things, even love.

Think about the problem of freedom. For many, the object of freedom is reduced to serve basic self-interest. I suppose that would work if one lived in a world with absolutely no relationships. But we live in a world with other people who think, believe, and act differently. Exercising self-centered freedom will almost certainly deny another the right to do the same.

So, can true freedom be embraced and enjoyed? In the letter to the Galatians, Paul concludes that Christ sacrificed his life for the cause of freedom. But he says to use this freedom to satisfy the flesh is to miss the entire point. Paul says true freedom is experienced by relinquishing it. Only when you freely, humbly submit and serve another in love do you understand the meaning of true freedom.

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