

Slide 1--Title

Freedom From Oppression: Get It, Keep It

Galatians 5:1--“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.”
John 8:36-- “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

Slide 2-- Our Spiritual Emancipation Proclamation

Luke 4:17-19: “And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Jesus (in the synagogue at Nazareth). He opened it, found the place where it was written, and read: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent Me to declare release to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

The good news is: 1. Bringing release to spiritual prisoners. 2. Enabling the spiritually blind to see. 3. Freeing those under oppression. 4. Living in the favor of the Lord

Slide 3- Definitions--

Freedom--ability to do or not to do what a person chooses to do, without control from another source

Oppress--lit: to press down on; to exercise harsh control over; to maltreat; to exert demanding pressure

Slide 4--

We are In the Cosmic Battle against the Oppressor: Victory Obtained Must be Victory Maintained

Matt. 13:24-28 -- “Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while his servants were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares (weeds) among the wheat, then went away. But when the wheat sprouted and bore rain, then the tares became evident also. The servants of the landowner came to him and said, ‘Sire, did you now sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ And the owner said to them, ‘*An enemy had done this!*’

Slide 5-- Two emphases of truth--

- recognize **the source: the enemy**, not God, not self
- recognize **the “this”**-- don't be confused and call darkness light and light darkness! Satan's stuff is not God's stuff!

Slide 6--

1, Recognize the source-- the “enemy” and those unseen spiritual enemies assigned by him to oppose Christians

1 Pe. 5:8-9 -- “Stay alert! Be on the lookout for **your adversary (your opponent, your great enemy)**, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour (“to gulp down/swallow whole”). Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith.”

Written to Christians...Peter final piece of instruction--most important--like Paul's end-of-letter words to the Ephesians!

Slide 7--

2. Recognize the “this” --the “data” in life that derives from the enemy and is intended to oppose and, if possible, destroy us

John 10:10 -- “The thief comes only to steal, to kill, and to destroy. But I have come to bring life--rich, satisfying (abundant) life.” **A stark contrast--the will of heaven vs. the will of hell -- Submit to God's stuff; resist Satan's stuff (James 4:7)**

Slide 8--

Our Regular Responsibility: One: Recognize Oppression; Two: Resist the Oppressors

Situations where daily demonic oppression often occurs:

1. Our personal lives-- soul and circumstantial attacks
2. Our married and family life if applicable; subset: our financial life

3. Our church/ministry life:
4. Our Work life -- employers/employees; anything having to do with any kind of government or part of the “world system *All interpersonal relationships* -- God works through relationships; Satan wants to destroy them all

Slide 9--

How to prevent demonic oppression and stop it when it happens? --
how to “be alert” -- on guard -- vigilant

Essential Key: because we live in enemy territory-- (“the whole world lies under the authority of the evil one” -- 1 John 1:19) **we *must develop and maintain* an “alertness” mindset! -- Assume** that in any future or present situation, there is almost certainly going to be a “**demonic component**”

Slide 9-- We can prevent successful future demonic attack

- **practice pre-emptive warfare:** if in future--use your authority in Jesus’ name to FORBID (bind) all demons from exerting pressure against you or what you are involved in -- and if a specific kind of attack is brought to mind by the Spirit, specifically cancel the authority of any demon assigned to carry out that attack

Slide 10-- We can defeat present demonic attack

- **channel your “fight” instinct against your true enemy, not the humans around you--** once you recognize you’re under attack because you recognize the “this” that is happening, you FORBID demons from operating against you in Jesus name: “No, stop it! All demons involved in this situation; I forbid you from doing what you’re trying to do. You cannot touch me. (1 John 1:18--“the evil one does not touch him (the Christian).” Go where Jesus would send you now, in His name!”

Slide 11-- Keep resisting if oppression continues...

- **repeat if necessary** until the manifestations of demonic pressure stop completely; **close open doors** if God reveals
- **enjoy the favor of the Lord** now that demonic oppression has ended!

**WE ARE INTENDED TO LIVE
FREE FROM OPPRESSION!**