

OUR FREEDOM WAS NOT FREE!

Revelation 5:1-10

INTRODUCTION: Truly it is wonderful to live in the United States of America, to be a Christian and know the freedom that comes from being a citizen of this great country and also a citizen of heaven. Do you know that our Scripture reading that we read this morning is a vision of our future? Revelation 5:1-5. Over 235 years ago some brave Christian men declared their independence from Great Britain and their dependence on the God of heaven. Because of their faith and the faith of their descendants the United States of America is the most blessed nation in the history of mankind. We ought to give honor where honor is due. No we are not a perfect union, we have our troubles, but God has greatly blessed and used the United States of America to advance His kingdom over the years. It is though Jesus Christ eventually true freedom will come over all the earth: Revelation 5:5-7. True freedom is never free! Revelation 5:9-10.

I. THE PRICE OF FREEDOM!

Revelation 5:9. Our freedom from sin's consequences and our freedom from the tyranny of foreign nations were not free: they came at the cost of the life blood of those who died to bring it to pass. Because of God's blessing on this nation in 1776 a rag tag army with little more than hunting muskets overcame the greatest military might of their day. We praise the Lord for their dedication but we praise God even more for the dedication of His only begotten Son who gave His life blood that we might gain the freedom that comes from having all our sins forgiven! Our freedom was not free! Titus 3:5. Our salvation did not cost us anything but it costs our Savior His life.

II. FREEDOM'S PRIVILEGE!

Revelation 5:10: Two hundred thirty-five years ago a group of men signed the Declaration of Independence and that brought into being a new nation because they paid the price of freedom. We enjoy our freedom today that costs us nothing, but it costs them everything. The same is true of our freedom in Christ: it costs us nothing. We didn't pay for our salvation of being a citizen of heaven but our Savior paid His life's blood to purchase our salvation. Most of us were born citizens of this great land and the same will be true of our citizenship in heaven, we must be born into it: John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 5:17.

III. FREEDOM'S POSSESSION!

Revelation 5:9: true freedom must be freedom without limits and available to every person regardless of their race, ethnic background, or what their former creed may have been. Freedom though Jesus Christ from the law of sin and death, from hell and the grave, and from Satan is available to all. Revelation 5:9; Matthew 11:28-30; revelation 22:17; John 5:24; Revelation 3:20-22. The possession of freedom in Christ is there for anyone who truly desires to be free and will accept Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior!