

THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

John 8:31-42

Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 30th Day of Lent

³¹To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

During my 39 years of practicing law in different capacities, I have encountered countless variations of the “truth”. As a young law clerk I swore in witnesses, with a hand on the Bible, using the oath: “Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?” Truth was in turn shared through the words of the beholder with some renditions more credible than others. Notably, telling the truth in a court of law does not assure physical freedom; confessors often are sentenced to prison.

Jesus is proclaiming an unadulterated spiritual “truth”, which can free one from sin, the ultimate bondage. He continues with an analogy regarding freedom through God’s truth: ³⁴“Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever”. Believers are freed from their slavery to sin and taken into the household of God. Even serving time in a penal facility does not inhibit the freedom offered by God! Physical barriers are no match for this truth. Those who are imprisoned by sin may be free in the truest sense through believing.

Prayer: Dear Lord, you are the provider of truth. Help us to hold fast the teachings of Christ so that we may experience true freedom. Amen.

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