

# Bible Reading

John 11:49-52  
Romans 3:23  
Romans 6:23

I Corinthians 15:31  
Titus 2:11-12  
I Peter 1:18-19

# Review Questions

From John 11:49-50, what did Caiaphas say would take place?

According to John 11:51-52, the high priest's prophecy, unknown to him, was making reference to what significant event?

In I Corinthians 15:31, what did the Apostle Paul state that he did on a daily basis, and what does this mean?

Read Titus 2:11-12. What does the grace of God teach us?

According to I Peter 1:18-19, what is the price that has been paid to secure spiritual freedom for us?

Lesson 10

# The Price of Liberty

*"...It is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not." John 11:50*

Liberty is a word that is often sung about and treasured. For many people in this world, liberty is a concept that is longed for yet never realized. The Word of God reveals that liberty is never free. True liberty always has a cost.

In John 11:49–52, God's Word records that Caiaphas spoke of one man dying for the nation. The Bible says in verses forty-nine and fifty, *"And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not."*

Though this religious leader did not realize it, he was speaking not only politically but also prophetically. The Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, would indeed die for the nation to which He came. God took the words of the high priest and used them for a prophecy of redemption.

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Notes

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Notes

## The Price of Our Spiritual Liberty

*Someone Must Die for the Sins of the People.*

*There is no true liberty apart from the cross of Christ.*

Caiaphas said, “*It is expedient...that one man should die for the people*” (John 11:50). In this statement, we see the necessity of Christ’s death. The Bible declares that we are all sinners (Romans 3:23). We are separated from God, condemned under the law of God, and subject to sin’s power.

The liberty that mankind needs from spiritual bondage cannot be purchased without a payment. For this reason, Christ had to die. He gave Himself a ransom to the justice of a perfectly holy God.

The price of our spiritual liberty also requires the substitution of a perfect Saviour. Caiaphas stated that “*one man should die for the people.*” This concept is called substitution. The Lord Jesus Christ did not merely die as an exemplary figure; He died as a substitute for you and for me.

Because of the sacrifice of Christ, we are freed from the penalty of sin, freed from the condemnation of the law of God, and given liberty from the dominion of sin. True spiritual liberty has never been earned; it is purchased with the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## The Cost of Our Christian Liberty

*We Must Die to Self.*

As Christ died to purchase our spiritual liberty, there is a parallel truth that is often overlooked by Christians. In order for us to use our Christian liberty properly, we must

die to self. Paul stated in I Corinthians 15:31, “*I die daily.*” Our old sin nature must be put to death on a regular basis.

Our ambitions, sinful desires, and selfish nature continually seek to have their own way in each of our lives. But Christ has called us to self-denial. He commands us to take up our cross, to embrace death to the old life and death to self.

We are not our own but have been purchased with the blood of Christ (I Peter 1:18-19). True Christian liberty is not doing what we want, but rather doing what Christ wants for us. As we die to self, Christ lives powerfully through us.

## The Price of Our National Liberty

*Patriots Have Died So That We May Enjoy the Freedoms We Have Today.*

Many who live in the United States of America enjoy the freedoms and liberties we have, but do not understand that these freedoms came at a tremendous cost. The cost of freedom is that, throughout our nation’s history, men and women have sacrificed their lives so that others may be free. The cost of liberty is indeed very high.

All of our wonderful liberties have been secured by those who have given their lives so we may carry these freedoms to the next generation. We should value our freedom, protect it, and use our liberties wisely.

*If we do not use our freedoms, we will soon find them eroded and eventually entirely nonexistent.*

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*Christian liberty only flourishes where the self-life has been crucified.*