

Bible Reading

Leviticus 25:8-17

Genesis 2:16

Titus 2:11-14

Galatians 2:4; 5:1

Romans 1:14-16; 8:15, 21

John 8:36

Isaiah 61:1-2

II Corinthians 4:1-5

Review Questions

During the Old Testament times, what happened during the Year of Jubilee that made this event so unique?

In the Garden of Eden, what two gifts did God give Adam?

Why is it important to understand that liberty is not freedom from the law, but freedom within the law?

Who is the Great Emancipator who can set you free?

As Christians, our liberty in Christ has given us a new purpose in living. How would you describe that purpose?

Proclaim *Liberty* Throughout *the Land*

Lesson 1

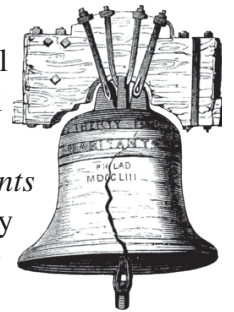
“And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof...”

Leviticus 25:10

Among the vast array of our country’s collection of memorials and iconic pieces of history, perhaps one of the most famous is the Liberty Bell. The Bell once sat atop the steeple of the Pennsylvania State House, now known as Independence Hall. Commissioned in 1752, the bell was used to summon lawyers to official meetings and to mark important public announcements.

Today, the Liberty Bell is a recognized symbol of freedom. Emblazoned upon the mighty bell is a quotation from Leviticus 25:10, *“Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all inhabitants thereof.”* The most notable ringing of the Liberty Bell was on July 8, 1776, when it called together the people of Philadelphia for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence.

America is free because it was founded upon faith in God and reliance upon His Word. Liberty is inseparable from the American experiment. Christians of Colonial America were committed to liberty. They knew that liberty is from the Lord, that liberty is to be protected by the law, and that liberty is for life and living.



Notes

Freedom has been the heart-cry of our nation.

Proclaim Liberty Throughout the Land

Lesson One

Notes

Liberty Is From the Lord

Leviticus 25 outlines the Sabbath Year and the Year of Jubilee. Every seventh year, the land rested—no planting or harvesting would take place. Debts were forgiven and servants released. After seven Sabbath cycles came the Year of Jubilee, announced by the sounding of a ram’s horn. Notice the description of this “jubilee” in Leviticus 25:8-17. Following the Day of Atonement, liberty was proclaimed throughout the land: debts were cancelled, servants freed, and property returned to its original family. Observing Jubilee required extraordinary faith, as Israel relied on God’s provision for a second consecutive year.

When God created Adam, He gave mankind life and liberty.

The weight of this passage rests not merely in the command, but in its Author. Liberty is from the Lord. From creation, God granted humanity both life and freedom (Genesis 2:16). This truth was later echoed by Thomas Jefferson, who affirmed that liberty is a gift from God. True freedom comes from Him and is safeguarded by law.

Liberty Is Protected Within the Law

Liberty is not freedom *from* the law but freedom *within* it. Leviticus, a Book of Law, shows that liberty is protected by accountability and responsibility. Freedom without law results in tyranny and anarchy. This principle shaped America’s founding, as the Declaration of Independence affirms that liberty is a gift from God and government exists to protect it. Much modern unrest stems from rejecting this truth.

Notes

Likewise, many Christians today have misunderstood liberty in Christ, viewing God’s Word as restrictive. Yet God’s Word protects and secures our liberty. True freedom in Christ embraces obedience, accountability, and holy living for God’s glory (Titus 2:11-14).

Liberty Is for Life and Living

When the trumpet sounded in Israel, it announced liberty – freedom for the enslaved, hope for the poor, and a new beginning for the weary. The Scriptures teach that all systems apart from Christ promise freedom but produce bondage. True liberty is found only in Jesus Christ.

In Romans 8:21, Paul declared this “*glorious liberty of the children of God.*” In Galatians 5:1, he exhorted believers to “*stand fast*” in it. The Lord Jesus affirmed, “*If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed*” (John 8:36). Every believer has been freed from bondage to live for God.

Liberty in Christ also gives purpose for living. Those set free desire to see others freed. This truth was understood by Thomas Paine, who wrote of liberty’s universal significance. Likewise, Christians are debtors to proclaim the gospel (Romans 1:14-16). Christ proclaimed liberty to the captives (Isaiah 61:1-2), and His children now carry that mission forward. We must not be silent bells. Faithfulness requires proclaiming liberty in Christ to all.

Liberty in Christ not only gives new life but also a new purpose in living!

Freedom without law results in tyranny and anarchy.