

Discipleship Indicative of Saving Faith

Promise: Christ sets us free to live with Him forever

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Revelation 14:6-7; Psalm 146; Romans 3:19-28; [John 8:31-36](#)
(Reformation Sunday, 10/30/22)

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed – v. 36

Lead In – The Jewish religious leaders had been squabbling all the way through the 8th chapter of John up to the point of our Gospel Lesson. They had tested to see if Jesus would approve of the stoning of a woman caught in adultery, and then they had taken Him on when He claimed to be the Light of the World, which admittedly is quite an audacious claim! And then in verse 30, the last verse before our present lesson we read, “As he was saying these things, many believed in him.” Now Jesus addresses those believers...

I. Saving Faith Is Not A Once And Done Proposition

- A. Saving faith, belief, is an ongoing exercise of a gift...
- B. The Parable of the Sower helps us see this...
- C. The new life exercising faith must be fed...

II. If You Abide In My Word You Are Truly My...

- A. The sense of μένω (menō) is rich and includes...
- B. Ordinarily we have no idea what true freedom is...
- C. Freedom from to be free for...

III. The Slave Does Not Remain In The House

- A. The Truth that frees is finally a person!
- B. Remaining in the house involves an inheritance...
- C. Eternity involves two quite different conditions...

Parting Shot – In the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism we should all be joining Dawson this morning in pledging to *live among God’s faithful people, to hear His Word and share in His supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through Word and deed, and to serve all people.* In a word, this is to pledge to abide in Christ’s Word. It’s not a once and done proposition. Faith is to continue and endure while taking nourishment from the one who gave us spiritual birth, for He suffered, died, and rose again that we might have life and salvation. And He continues to feed us with His Word...

Ep 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

1Pe 1:23 You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God.

Mt 13:4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.

Mt 13:5-6 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away.

Mt 13:7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

Mt 13:8 Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

John 8:31-36 ESV

The Truth Will Set You Free

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Je 15:16 Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.

Ro 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

μένω (menō): abide, dwell, remain, continue...

True Freedom is to be free from sin, death, and the rule of the evil one.

Tue Flourishing is to be bound to Christ who is Light and Life.

Ro 14:8-9 For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Ep 2:18-20 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

Jn 14:6 “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Mt 25:34 Then the King will say to those on his right, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

Mt 25:21, 25 Enter into the joy of your master.

Mt 25:41 Then he will say to those on his left, “Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”

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