



Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



## COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00  
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- Children's Class: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 5:30 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



# SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." -Acts 17:11

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## SPIRITUAL LIBERTY

Michael Pickford

On July 4th we celebrated our National liberty and independence. But spiritual liberty is far superior. Jesus died on the cross to free us from our sins, to deliver us from certain eternal punishment, and to grant us a living hope of eternal life in the presence of the Lord. Spiritual liberty can be...

**Acquired.** "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free..." (Galatians 5:1). These had acquired liberty from sin. How? "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:26-27). Saul (Paul) was told to "Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins" (Acts 22:16). Baptism connects us with the blood of Christ and the blood then cleanses us, imparting liberty from our sins (Ephesians 1:7). Have you acquired spiritual liberty?

**Abused.** Some in Galatia were trying to abuse their spiritual liberty. Paul addressed a similar problem in Romans 6:1-2, "Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not!" Paul urged the Galatians not to use their liberty as an opportunity for the flesh (Galatians 5:13). When we become Christians, we are not allowed

to go on living any way we choose. Calvinism teaches that once saved, one can never so sin as to lose his salvation. Practically applied, this doctrine condones the concept of having your cake and eating it to. Just get saved then go ahead and enjoy the lusts of the flesh, you can't lose your spiritual liberty! Nonsense! Paul makes it clear that we must walk in the Spirit (vs 16), and those who insist on practicing the works of the flesh will not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:17-21).

**Abandoned.** It follows then that one can abandon his spiritual liberty. He can lose his salvation after having been cleansed. "You have become estranged from Christ" (Galatians 5:4). This statement inherently implies that they were in fact in Christ, and clearly teaches one can become estranged from Him. But Paul went on in this verse to say, "You have fallen from grace." Can one who is estranged from Christ be saved? Can one who has fallen from grace go to heaven? If it's impossible to fall from grace then how could Paul even make such a statement? Paul told the Galatians to "Stand fast therefore in the liberty..." (Galatians 5:1). Don't abandon your liberty in Christ, remain faithful till death (Revelation 2:10). ☞

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# TRUE FREEDOM

Michael Pickford

*"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." ...* –John 8:31-32

*Saved."*

Jesus speaks of the truth making us free. The truth is the word of God (John 17:17). God's word, if obeyed, frees us from our sins. The truth Jesus taught in Mark 16:16 is exemplified in Acts 22:16 as Saul is commanded to arise and be baptized and wash away his sins. Freedom from sin!

Freedom is a marvelous thing. Ask anyone who has just been freed from serving a prison sentence. Ask anyone who has moved to American from an oppressive government. Ask anyone who has retired from work. Ask anyone who has managed to pay off all of their debt. But most of all, ask anyone who has obeyed the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The truth also frees us from religious error. If we love it! Paul speaks of *"those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved"* (2 Thessalonians 2:10). Any error can be ascertained as such with honest, open-hearted, diligent bible study (Acts 17:11). This is how we *"Test the spirits, whether they are of God..."* (1 John 5:1).

Jesus speaks here of freedom belonging to His true disciples. But He identifies a true disciple as one who abides in His words. Discipleship begins by accepting his teachings. Many claim to be his disciple yet they reject what he said in Mark 16:16, *"He who believes and is baptized shall be*

*Don't be enamored with popular sentiments and even more popular errors. Error comforts, but it's a false comfort. Let the truth free you!* 🔍

## SERMON NOTES

*Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.*

**STUDY DAILY!**  
Acts 17:11

### Homosexuality & The Highest Court

Introduction:

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

#### DUTY LIST...

##### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by.....Robert Johnson  
Reading: Isaiah 1:4-9
- Song Leader.....Ben Green
- Opening Prayer.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table:  
Lead.....Ben Reagh  
Serve.....Kenny Johnson  
Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

##### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Lord's Table.....Ben Reagh

##### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Invitation.....Ben Green

*Home Bible Studies Available Upon Request!*

##### GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

**Obey Today!**

#### THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE FOR OUTSIDE SIGN

(Thanks to anyone who can stay after services tonight and help change the sign.)

#### BOTH SIDES:

**ONLY GOD'S TRUTH CAN IMPART TRUE LIBERTY  
JOHN 8:32**

**MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING TONIGHT!**

