

"Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." Romans 6:18 KJV



Under the feudal system, only the rich and powerful could own land. All land and housing were the property of the lord of the manor. You paid a tax to the land \bar{o} lord \bar{o} to use the land to sustain your family. Carts, tools, livestock, and dwelling all belonged to the manor and you were allowed to use them for a fee. Some lords were cruel and ruthless and their serfs were but poor starving wretches. Some were kind and generous. Of this era were born the tales of Robinhood and the like. The great lords had armies and castles, some even became kings. If you were not a lord, you served one, either as a serf or a soldier. The only way to be completely free of one lord was to completely serve another. \bar{o} The earth is the Lord \bar{o} \bar{o} Satan is trying to muscle in on God \bar{o} property, and through deception has persuaded many that he is more powerful. The only way to completely escape the chains of sin is to completely serve righteousness. Satan \bar{o} pleasures always bind and destroy in the end. Ask any drug addict or homeless drunkard if they are truly \bar{o} free \bar{o} Christ has broken sin \bar{o} bonds and invites us back into His service. We can go from the hard toil of the fields of sin into the army of the KING, and the pleasures of the court. \bar{o} Behold, God is mighty, and despiseth not any: He is mighty in strength and wisdom. He withdraweth not His eyes from the righteous: If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in Thy presence is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. \bar{o} We can move from serfdom to Kingdom! We can become joint-heirs with the Son, the Prince of Peace. Satan can only rule with permission. He uses trickery and guile to entice and lure. He has an inside man, your body. He manipulates with temptation and sin to keep you from the joy of being a child of God. \bar{o} Let no man say when he is tempted, \bar{I} am tempted of God: \bar{o} for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren. \bar{o} We must be wary of the body \bar{o} impulses and its allegiance to sin. It is an ogre that must be clapped in the irons of obedience, and daily beaten with the rod of correction. Feed on the Bread of Life and the Living Water. Retreat to the safety of the Castle of God \bar{o} Word, where Faith and Prayer guard the battlements. Don \bar{o} toil in the fields if you \bar{o} re supposed to be serving in court!

Freedom from sin! How can it be,
That Heaven \bar{o} Lord should die for me?
From Castle keep I now can see,
That sin, indeed, imprisoned me. -CGP

To be completely free, I must completely obey. Some believers still drag a ball and chain around in the Castle! For believers, flesh is the enemy and Jesus, the Word, is our Life!

"And if any man hear my Words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my Words, hath one that judgeth him: the Word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the Last Day. For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, He gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that His commandment is Life Everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak." John 12:47-50 KJV