

## Liberty

Robert Johnson

In 1776, Thomas Paine, American Revolution patriot and writer, commented about the price of freedom. "What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; 'tis dearness only that gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods, and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as Freedom should not be highly rated."

As Paine noted, Independence Day is not just another holiday. History tells the price paid for freedom, many times over. It reminds us the price that must ever be paid if freedom will be maintained. How many have given of themselves, have given themselves, that we might enjoy liberty? We do well to remember and pay homage to those whose sacrifices permit us to enjoy the privileges we have today.

**What a sacrifice was made that we might be free in Christ!** Our liberty from the bondage of sin was purchased at no small cost. The grace of God in offering us salvation is made possible only through the blood of His Son. "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death" (Romans 8:1-2). In Christ, we are freed from the effects of sin and have the promise of eternity.

The freedom Christ offers from sin comes from the love God has for each of us. **Our love for Him should be reflected in our devotion to His will.** "But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does" (James 1:25). Only by abiding in Christ do we find the benefits His sacrifice provides.

As we reflect on our nation's freedom, let us rejoice that **every day is Independence Day in Christ.** May we never forget the price He paid, the gift He offers and the life He provides. "It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery" (Galatians 5:1).

- Gospel Gazette Online



*"... Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty."*

2 Corinthians 3:17

*"Let all the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; And God, even our own God, shall bless us."*

Psalm 67:8-9

The Bible is the cornerstone of liberty. — Thomas Jefferson

## News & Notes

**MAIN ELEVATOR: Out of Service for repairs.** Please use the Lift at the front of the building until further notice.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, July 1st, 8:30 a.m.** at EJ's.

**COVERED DISH DINNER: Next Sunday, July 2nd, about noon** at the Fellowship Building, followed by our **early afternoon service, 2:00 p.m.** at the Church Building.

**100th BIRTHDAY: July 7th, Mike Yost** (Peggy Williams' brother) will observe this special milestone in his life. Send cards to: Pembleton Manor, Box 700, Franklin, WV 26807. Happy Birthday, Mike!



**July 10-15** at Tomlinson Run State Park. Registration packets available. If you can volunteer to help in some way, sign up on the sheets in the foyer. **Bible study for Wednesday, July 12th will be at camp, NOT at the church building.**

**PANTRY:** Hot dogs and buns.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: CLEVELAND CLINIC:** Rick Thompson (Sarah Malcomson's dad). Rick had six heart by-passes. **At Home:** Mike West, Peggy Williams, Randy Beagle, Peggy Linger, Nancy Cox, Becky McKitrick, Blondenia Orr, Barbara DeLong, David Strum, Cheryl Renfro Walker, Lori Rowand (John Sprout's niece). **Fox - Chester:** Mary Johnson (Lois Hissom's sister). **Fox, Pepperberry Suites, Chester:** David McCoy. **In Ohio:** Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Drive, Lisbon OH 44432.

## Look What Has Come To The World

An English writer has said, "The early Christians did not go around saying, 'Look what the world has come to.' Rather they went out with great joy and said to all men, 'Look what has come to the world!'"

There is a great difference between these two attitudes. Yes, the world is in bad shape — but read the second chapter of Romans and you will find that the world was in an awful condition in Paul's time. The unique Gospel of Jesus Christ offers the solution to man's problems. Look! See what has come into the world — God's revelation of Himself in all His power, wisdom, and love through Jesus Christ. His only begotten Son. This is indeed glorious news! This is a message which we cannot keep to ourselves, but we must tell everybody about it. No wonder Christians are radiant with joy. They have found the treasure all are seeking. They have seen what has come into the world in the advent of Jesus Christ, and they are working for the advancement of His kingdom until He comes again.

- House to House, Heart to Heart



## GOD OF OUR FATHERS

*Thy love divine hath led us in the past;  
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;  
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay,  
Thy word our law, Thy path our chosen way.*

- Daniel C. Roberts, 1876 -