Speaker: Stephen Whitmore

Date: 17th April 2011 Reading: John 8:30-36

There is not one person in this world that is free from sin. Not one can accuse without themselves being guilty.

The freedom can come, not by anything we do, but by one Person; by truly believing in the heart, not because of outward signs but a real inward change.

The officers of the priests had said, "Never man spake like this man" (Jn 7:46). Many realised this but then stopped at this point. Their faith never rose beyond seeing a great teacher and healer. If we put our life in His hands we can be absolutely sure He will keep. He can do what we cannot do for ourselves.

What is the freedom we need? "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin". You don't have to teach a child to sin. They will always try to see how far they can push the limit. Look at the test put to Adam and Eve in the garden. They had only one tree which they were not to eat of, God set a boundary. Before long the devil tempts, the fruit is taken and sin has entered the world. "By one man sin entered into the world and death by sin" (Rom 5:12).

Sin can work itself out as a blatant act of rebellion, it cam be a crime that horrifies us. Lying and proud thoughts are just as much sin before God.

Luke 15 – 2 men, one went off taking his goods with him and wasted them in riotous living. He was rebellious and sinful. Nothing about him could be commended but he came to the end of himself. He came back in repentance and the father welcomed him home. The other stayed and seemed happy to work in the house. Outwardly he was commendable but inwardly he was full of pride and resentment. He would not admit that he was not good enough for God.

Just from a sinful thought eternal destiny will result. Whatever the sin may be, the Lord will reveal it in a day to come "wages of sin is death" (Rom 6:23). "Dead small and great... those names not written...second death" (Rev 20:11-15). Second death results in everlasting judgment and banishment from the presence of God for all eternity.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the one who can deliver you from the bondage of sin. No other one can, only the Son of God.

A price must be paid. We are the slaves of sin and someone must pay the price so that we can be delivered. "In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sin" (Eph 1:7). The Son of God came from the glory of heaven to set us free. "If the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed". There is no middle ground, the choice must be made. You are either in bondage to sin or set free by the Son of God. Everyone is one of the two categories. "The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom 6:23).

The Son of God went to Calvary and laid down His life. He took the sentence that was upon us that we might go free. Sin can have no more claim upon us once we have been set free. You must make the choice, continue as you are, trying your best and following rituals or you must lay your life in His hands.

Many believe the facts that He died for sins and rose again. You need to turn from own efforts and confess unworthiness.

Many will say, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name?" (Mat 7:22).

The wise man is the one who hears words and does them, the foundation is solid and cannot be shaken. The foolish man is the one who hears and does not do them.

In the list of people shut out of life in Rev 21:8, the first are the fearful. Those who know the claims of Christ but something holds them back.

Matthew 10:28 warns no to be afraid of those who kill the body but not the soul rather be afraid of Him who has power to cast body and soul into hell.