

## Ultimate Freedom

John 8:31-36

Happy 245<sup>th</sup> birthday America!

America is a great nation because it has been built upon the principles of Scripture.

Our nation's forefathers believed that Scripture spoke about the unalienable right of freedom...

Yet, no matter how many freedoms our nation gives us, it cannot give us-  
FREEDOM FROM THE SHAME AND GUILT IMPOSED UPON US BY OUR SINS.

### I. SIN HAS A TERRIBLE ABILITY TO DOMINATE OUR LIVES.

#### **Titus 3:3**

Sin can drag us down - and destroy our lives.

#### **John 8:36**

*“So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.”*

That is the promise of Christ.

That's our birthright as Christians.

Yet as real as that promise is... and as faithful as Jesus will be in keeping it-

It is a tragic reality that many Christians still struggle with guilt and shame.

### II. I WANNA BE FREE!

#### **John 8:31-32**

How can I “remain faithful” to the teachings of Jesus?

1. By Reading the Bible.
2. By Spending time in intimate prayer with God.
3. By Being consistent in attending church... and while there...

Practicing placing my focus on Him and what He is seeking!

### III. ULTIMATE FREEDOM IS BEING SET FREE FROM THE BURDON AND SHAME OF GUILT!

#### **John 8:34-36**

If we as Christians say we never fall down – we're not kidding anybody - least of all God.

So, what do we do when we DO sin???

#### **1 John 1:8-10**

Confess my sin!

To confess my sins to God means:

1. I refuse to make excuses for my sin.
2. I refuse to compare myself with someone else's sinfulness.
3. I refuse to try to put a good face on my sin.

To confess my sin means I admit I was wrong, I know it was wrong,

AND I CAN'T FIX THE PROBLEM by myself.

#### **Proverbs 28:13**

God wants to give us His mercy...

but the only way that mercy will be given is if we admit to our sin.

God will forgive us for only one reason: He loves us.

#### **Romans 8:31, 32**