**R868 Rumination for 12th September, 2021**

The **T**heme: **The FulLness of Freedom**[berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: *If the Son therefore shall make you* ***free****,* *ye shall be* ***free indeed****.* Jn. 8:36

The **T**hots:

Intro. The Two degrees of Freedom – *Free* and *Free Indeed*, i.e. the **F**ulness of **F**reedom!

 Firstly, Position**ally** we are Free; but **R**ealistic**ally**, we need to be **R**eally Free!

 *Therefore, if the Son sets you free, you* ***really*** *will be free*. (HCSB)

In **S**tatus we are Free; but in **S**tate or **R**eality, we need to be **R**eally *Free Indeed*!

 *If then the son may make you free, in* ***reality*** *ye shall be free.* (YLT)

Consider the two acts of being ***Free*** and ***Free Indeed***:

1. **The Two-Fold Act to Accomplish the Full Act in Sacrifice.**

*If the Son therefore shall make you* (1)***free****, ye shall be* **(2) *free indeed****.* Jn. 8:36

1. **The Two Goats For Full Atonement.** Lev. 16:8-10
2. *Aaron shall cast lots upon the* ***two goats****; one lot for the LORD, and the other lot for the scapegoat.*
3. *If the Son shall make you free* – *And Aaron shall bring the goat upon which the LORD'S lot fell,*

 *and offer him for a sin offering*

1. *.* *ye shall be free indeed – But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be*

 *presented alive before the LORD, to make an atonement with him,*

 *and to* ***let him go******for a scapegoat into the wilderness.***

1. **The Two Birds for the Full Cleansing of the Leper:** Lev. 14:4, 5

*Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed* ***two birds*** *alive and clean…*

*If the Son shall make you free:* *The priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water:*

*ye shall be free indeed As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water:* Lev. 14:6

*And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall* ***let the living bird loose into the open field.***Lev. 14:6,7

1. **The Two Acts to free a Nazarite Slave**: **Exo. 21:2ff**

 *If thou buy an Hebrew servant, six years he shall serve:*

*If the Son shall make you free:* *And in the seventh* ***he shall go out free*** *for nothing.*

*ye shall be free indeed: And if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife,*

*and my children;* ***I will not go out free:***  *Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and* ***he shall serve him for ever****.* Exo/ 21:5, 6

1. **The Two Acts to raise Lazarus.** Jn. 11:43-44

*If the Son shall make you free*: *When He…had spoken, He cried with a loud voice,* ***Lazarus, come forth****.*

 *He that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin.*

*ye shall be free indeed: Jesus saith unto them,* ***Loose him, and let him go****.*

1. **The Two-Fold Act to Accomplish the Full Act in Scripture.**
2. In the Old Covenant –
3. The **C**onsecration of Priests **ONCE** in their Life-time – their **W**ashing of the **W**hole Person. Exo. 29:4

*Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle…and…wash them with water.*

1. The **S**anctification of Priests **EVER** Always before **S**ervice in the Tabernacle:

- their Washing of the Hands and Feet before Every Service in the Tabernacle. Exo. 40:31

*And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet thereat* (at the Laver)

1. In the New Covenant: Jn. 13:10, NRSV

*Jesus said to him, "One who has* ***bathed*** *does not need to* ***wash****, except for the feet,*

 *but is entirely clean. And you are clean…."*

1. The Bathing once-for-all – the Once-for-all **C**leansing of our Sin. Heb. 9:28

 *So Christ was* ***once*** *offered to bear the sins of many;*

1. The Washing ever always – the ever **C**ontinual **C**leansing of our Sins.I Jn. 1:7

 *the blood of Jesus* ***C****hrist his Son* ***C****leanseth us from all sin –* Ever Always!

1. *If we* ***C****onfess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,*

 *and to* ***C****leanse us from all unrighteousness.* I Jn. 1:9

**Con**. *If the Son therefore shall make you* ***free****, ye shall be* ***free indeed****.* Jn. 8:36

*I am dwelling now in Canaan, Jesus’ blood avails for me;*

 *I am free from condemnation, For the Son hath made me free.* Miriam E. Oatman

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 868**

1. On Thursday, September 16th this week, Malaysia celebrates Malaysia Day.

The country had earlier celebrated Malaysia Independence Day, also known as National Day or 'Hari Merdeka' in Malay which is observed on August 31 and commemorates the Malayan Declaration of Independence of 31 August 1957.

On September 16, it will commemorate Malaysia Day (Hari Malaysia) again this time it is to commemorate the establishment of the Malaysian federation on that date in 1963. This event saw Malaya, North Borneo (which was renamed Sabah), Sarawak, and Singapore unite into a single state. Singapore, however, was expelled from the federation less than two years later, on 9 August 1965.

So in a way, Malaysia celebrates two “freedom” days, one on 31 August and the other on 16th September every year.

Does this not remind us of Jesus’ statement: *If the Son therefore shall make you*

 *ye shall be* ***free indeed****.* Jn. 8:36

On August 31 only Peninsular Malaya rightly celebrates its independence.

But on September 16, the whole federation of Malaysia celebrates the formation and federation of the three independent states of Peninsula Malaya, Sarawak and Sabah.

When a person believes in the Lord Jesus Christ as his/her Saviour he is set free from the bondage of sin. He is free positionally. But it is possible, that he does not enjoy the full freedom of being free from sin as he ever so often returns to his commitment of sin ever now and again. He has yet to really experience the full independence of hid freedom. Free and yet not completely *free – free, but not free indeed*!

He would be in the same situation as Paul when he decried: - **Romans 7:21-25** (NKJV)
*21  I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good.
22  For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.
23  But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind,*

*and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.**24  O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?
25****I thank God--through Jesus Christ our Lord!***

Paul is conscious that while he has been set free by the Lord from sin positionally, yet his actual state does not really or in reality reflect it. He still finds himself succumbing to the temptations of sin and sinning against God, thus making him so very miserable.

At the same time he realises that to overcome this seeming “bondage” to sin (though positionally already set free) he must really commit himself to the Lord to have this promised full freedom of victory over sin.

Hence, his cry – *O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?****I thank God--through Jesus Christ our Lord!***

He must surrender himself to the Lord fully, and only then will he have the “*freedom indeed”* that the Lord promised. **You are *free*; but are you *free indeed*? REFLECT**

1. Dead Lazarus, heard the Lord’s cry, “*Lazarus, Come forth!*” (Jn. 11:43)

*And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them,* ***Loose him, and let him go****.* (11:44)

You have been raised from the death of sin and are now alive – you are Free!

But you may still be bound by your grave clothes. You need to be loosed of them to move freely. Are you *free indeed*? **REFLEC**T.

**POINTS TO PONDER: *F****ree and Alive yet bound* ***C****aptive by your grave* ***C****lothes.*

*Is this* ***F****reedom? Seek to* ***E****njoy and* ***E****xperience, “****F****reedom Indeed”!*