

YOU ARE SET FREE!

Luke 13:10-17

Introduction:

Abraham Lincoln the Great Emancipator. Legally the slaves were set free January 1, 1863, in the Emancipation Proclamation. Ultimately, the black slaves were set free and the legal status of 3.5 million slaves was changed to free. Yet most continued to live out their years, and many of their children some of their years, in fear, saying, “‘I don’t know nothin’ ‘bout Abraham Lincoln cep they say he sot us free. And I don’t know nothin’ ‘bout that neither.’”

Emancipate: Free from restraint, control, or the power of another; *especially* to free from bondage; to free from any controlling influence.

In a context of freedom, slaves chose to remain slaves, though they were legally freed. Even though emancipated, they kept serving the same master throughout their lives.

Sadly, many believers are like the slaves in Civil War times. All the official documents have been signed; all the legal matters have been taken care of. God has accepted the “*emancipation proclamation*” made by Jesus on Calvary, when He said, “*It is finished*”. Yet, we still live in bondage because we will not accept the freedom available to us in Jesus.

Luke 13:10-17

- A. She Was Afflicted Physically** – This was a woman who was in severe physical pain. Every day was a struggle for her.
- B. She Was Attacked Spiritually** – Much of the time, our illnesses are just part of the human experience – but not always!
- C. She Was Affected Socially** – Because of her condition, this woman was considered to be a freak, an oddity to be laughed at and imitated by children. She was a social outcast. A pariah! She knew the pain of rejection!

- D. A Powerful Pictures of Faith and Faithfulness** –She has been in this condition for 18 years! Attended at least 1,000 meetings. She has not been healed, yet, she still believes God!
- E.** When Jesus saw her; He called her to come to Him. She struggled her way to where He was, and He spoke to her. He called her “**Woman**”. What a word of compassion! Her beauty had long ago faded. People did not see her as a woman, but as a freak. But Jesus saw her as a woman! Others may not have recognized her significance, but Jesus did. Then He spoke the words that changed everything, “***you are set free from your infirmity***”. What was impossible with 18 years of struggle, Jesus did with a word!
- F.** I don’t know what has you bound today. I don’t know what kind of past you are fighting. I don’t know what kind of emotional demons haunt you day by day. I don’t know what kind of literal demons haunt you by night. I don’t know about the valleys and the burdens, but I know Who does! I know that if you will come to Him at His call, He will give you rest:

Matthew 11:28-30

He can speak the word of liberty that will set you free from all that hinders you. He didn’t save you to leave you in bondage. He saved you to set you free:

John 8:36 *“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”*

- G.** Remember, Jesus Christ still has the same power in His touch today!

Conclusion:

You need to know that Jesus Christ cares about you and that He has a plan to help you. He wants to set you free from everything that binds you today. Jesus called the woman, but she had to do the coming and the receiving. I believe that she was in free long before the physical manifestation. She had learned to LET GO and LET GOD! The only question which remains is, “Are we willing to be free?” But, in order to be free, we must be willing to let go of the things which bind us and embrace the Lord who has proclaimed our emancipation!