



GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY MORNING MESSAGE (July 3, 2011)

Sermon by Ray Reynolds

'Independence Day'

Introduction: What is the significance of July 4? In the Old Testament and the New Testament we see that there were several holy days celebrated by God's people. Some had spiritual significance and others were national holidays. The 4th of July holds a spiritual parallel with the celebration of the Passover to the Jews. Jesus died to purchase our independence from the penalty of sin. Let's study together

Discussion:

I. Our National Freedom

** The Cost of Our National Freedom*

The writers of the Declaration of Independence separated themselves.

The writers of the Declaration of Independence gave their hearts.

The writers of the Declaration of Independence gave their lives.

** The Character of Our National Freedom*

The Declaration of Independence is firmly based on scriptural truth.

The Declaration of Independence is written with God's perspective in mind.

The Declaration of Independence is founded on Christian principles.

** The Conquest of Our National Freedom*

We must not take our freedom for granted.

We must not forget to pray for the persecuted.

We must not forget the sacrifices for this freedom.

II. Our Spiritual Freedom

** The Cost of Our Spiritual Freedom*

Our Savior was separated from God on the cross (**Matthew 27:46**).

Our Savior gave His whole heart to God (**Matthew 26:36-46**).

Our Savior gave His life for mankind (**John 10:8**).

** The Character of Our Spiritual Freedom*

The Bible reveals the need for reconciliation (**II Corinthians 5:20-21**).

The Bible reveals God's plan for salvation (**Jeremiah 31:31-33**).

The Bible reveals the new law of God (**Hebrews 7:11-25**).

** The Conquest of Our Spiritual Freedom*

We are set free from the penalty of sin (**Romans 6:23**).

We are given a great inheritance (**Colossians 1:12**).

We are set free to serve the living God (**Romans 6:18**).

Conclusion: As citizens of the kingdom of God, we have been blessed with spiritual freedom that we must not take for granted. Our spiritual freedom causes us to appreciate any other freedoms in the light that they are gifts from our Creator. What dates are important to you? What's the most important date in the history of your life? Are you fighting hard as a Christian soldier? Have you put on the whole armor of God? Let's work together to promote the need for freedom in the world today!

WORD OF THE DAY = "FREEDOM"