

a study in jeremiah

#13 "Free Dumb"

The Vineyard Church of Conroe Joel Looney August 11, 2013

Sermon Outline Notes

True Freedom is NOT <u>DOING WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO</u> True Freedom is <u>BECOMING WHO GOD MADE YOU TO BE</u>

It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom.

Galatians 5:13-14 MSG

I. <u>Jeremiah 21:1-10</u>

³But Jeremiah answered them, "Tell Zedekiah, ⁴This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I am about to turn against you the weapons of war that are in your hands, which you are using to fight the king of Babylon and the Babylonians who are outside the wall besieging you. And I will gather them inside this city. ⁵I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and a mighty arm in furious anger and in great wrath... ⁸"Furthermore, tell the people, 'This is what the LORD says: See, I am setting before you the way of life and the way of death... ⁹Whoever stays in this city will die by the sword, famine or plague. But whoever goes out and surrenders to the Babylonians who are besieging you will live; they will escape with their lives.

Freedom SURRENDERS TO GOD'S WILL

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Romans 6:5-7

II. Jeremiah 21:11-14, 22:1-17

¹²This is what the Lord says to you, house of David: "'Administer justice every morning; rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been robbed, or my wrath will break out and burn like fire because of the evil you have done—burn with no one to quench it.^{21:13}"Woe to him who builds his palace by unrighteousness, his upper rooms by injustice, making his own people work for nothing, not paying them for their labor. ¹⁴He says, 'I will build myself a great palace with spacious upper rooms.' So he makes large windows in it, panels it with cedar and decorates it in red...¹⁵"Does it make you a king to have more and more cedar? Did not your father have food and drink? He did what was right and just, so all went well with him. ¹⁶He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the LORD.

Freedom FIGHTS FOR THE CAPTIVES

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Luke 4:18-19

III. Jeremiah 22:18-30

¹⁸Therefore this is what the Lord says about Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah: "They will not mourn for him: 'Alas, my brother! Alas, my sister!' They will not mourn for him: 'Alas, my master! Alas, his splendor!' ¹⁹He will have the burial of a donkey—dragged away and thrown outside the gates of Jerusalem"...²²The wind will drive all your shepherds away, and your allies will go into exile. Then you will be ashamed and disgraced because of all your wickedness. ²³You who live in 'Lebanon,' who are nestled in cedar buildings, how you will groan when pangs come upon you, pain like that of a woman in labor...³⁰This is what the Lord says: "Record this man as if childless, a man who will not prosper in his lifetime, for none of his offspring will prosper, none will sit on the throne of David or rule anymore in Judah."

Freedom BIRTHS AN AUTHENTIC KINGDOM LIFE

I am the Gate. Anyone who goes through me will be cared for—will freely go in and out, and find pasture. A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

John 10:9-10 MSG