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## **TRUE FREEDOM IN GOD'S TRUTH**

*“The one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres....he will be blessed in his doing.” (James 1:25)*

**True freedom is only ever found under God's authority – and it is only ever found under the authority of Scripture, through which God's authority is mediated to men, and Christ by his Spirit rules his people's lives.** Biblical authority is often expounded in opposition to lax views of truth. Not so often, however, is it presented as the liberating, integrating invigorating principle that it really is. The common idea is that unqualified confidence in the Bible leads to narrow-minded inhibitions and crippling restraints on what you may think and do. **The truth is that such confidence produces liberated living – living, that is, which is free from uncertainty, doubt, and despair – which otherwise is not found anywhere. The man who trusts his Bible knows what God did, does, and will do, what he commands, and what he promises. With the Colossians, the Bible believer understands “the grace of God in truth”(Colossians 1:6), for the Christ of Scripture has become his Savior, master, and friend. Since Scripture shines as a lamp to his feet and a light to his path (Psalm 119:105), he can pick his way through the pitfalls of our spiritually benighted world without stumbling and travel through life with the title of a famous old tract called “safety, certainty, and enjoyment.”**

**Such is the freedom (and the victory) found under the authority of the Bible. Such is the basic shape and style of the life in which the fullness of God's power comes to be known. And who can do without that? There are few aspects of the Christian message which the church and the world need so urgently to face as the truth – the precious stabilizing, enriching truth – of the full trust-worthiness and divine authority of the written Word of God.**

**AMEN. By Dr. J. I. Packer**

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

