

## Rappin' With Luther – What We Do Now That We Don't Have to Do Anything Lesson 6

Gracious God, through your grace you have freed us from sin and death and set us free to have peace in you. Send us forth with the power of your Holy Spirit that we might live and love as you have showed us through your cross and resurrection, that all might know your love and life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*In this lesson, getting back to grace through faith alone, we discuss what we do as Christians now that we don't have to do anything to get God to love and save us. The primary source of Luther's discussion about this comes from his treatise called "The Freedom of the Christian."*

### Part 1 Perfectly Free Lord of All and Perfectly Dutiful Servant of All

#### Read 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

1. In verses 15-18 Paul talks about his proclamation of the gospel.

a. Why does Paul have no cause to **boast** about his preaching?

b. What **reward** does Paul have with regard to his preaching?

2. In what way is Paul "free" and in what way is Paul a "slave" to the preaching that he does?

3. Read verses 19-23 – How does Paul describe both his freedom and enslavement in these verses?

#### Read Romans 13:8-10

4. Paul talks about another kind of "enslavement" in these verses. To what or to whom should we be committed/enslaved?

#### Read Philippians 2:1-11

5a. What does Paul say Jesus (though he was equal to God) did for us (verse 6-7)?

b. Given what Paul said about Jesus in those verses, in what way was Jesus a kind of "slave" for us?

c. How does Paul's guidance in verses 3-5 teach us that we are to be "slaves" just like Jesus?

### Read John 13:34-35

6a. Jesus gives a new commandment in these verses. What is that new commandment?

b. If we fail to keep that commandment and simply express our own freedom to do whatever we want, what does Jesus say is the result of that?

### Read James 2:14-26

7. Martin Luther did not like the book of James because the language is very confusing to idea of "grace through faith alone." However, James' argument in this passage is a great example of the inner being and the outer being that we talked about in our video.

a. What part of James' verses here explain the "inner being?"

b. What part of James' verses here explain the "outer being?"

8. What does Paul mean that faith without works is dead?

9. What can we say about lines in this text like, "Can faith save you?" and "You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone?" In other words, how do we reconcile them with Paul's words in Romans 3:28 and our own Protestant faith?

### Part 2 What Does This Have to Do With My Life?

10. Can you offer a reflection on how you, as a person of Christian Faith, live your life both as someone who is a "perfectly free lord of all, subject to none" but also as a "perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."