

SOUTH AFRICA UPDATE

Dispatches from a Darkening Corner of the Dark Continent

The Farce of Freedom Day

False “Freedom” vs. True Freedom

by Shaun Willcock

The purpose of these articles is to provide an analysis of the contemporary South African and southern African scene from a Christian, “politically-incorrect” perspective, in order to counter the propaganda of the Reds, almost-Reds (liberals and others), and religious Reds (“liberation theologians”); to warn Christians living in South Africa of real and potential dangers; to encourage Christians elsewhere to pray for the people of this part of the world, especially for their Christian brethren; and to do what they can to assist them.

Christians are to pray for those in authority (1 Tim. 2:1,2), and to obey them in all matters not contrary to the Word of God (Rom. 13:1-7; Acts 5:29). But any danger to believers, whether from a religious or political source, must be brought to the attention of the Church of God (Acts 20:28-31; 2 Thess. 2:1-9; etc.); and this is what we seek to do.

April 27 is celebrated as “Freedom Day” in South Africa. On this day in 1994, the country held the elections that brought the African National Congress/South African Communist Party alliance (ANC/SACP) to power, with Nelson Mandela becoming president. And ever since then, this date has been observed as “Freedom Day”.

Freedom Day? It is a joke, a farce, a horrible mockery of true freedom. The ANC/SACP alliance did not bring freedom to this country, but bondage.

What freedom do South Africans supposedly enjoy today? Yes, all are free to vote; they are free to go where they like within the country; they are free to live where they please; to pursue any careers they please (in theory); to live as they please (again, in theory). But they live behind high fences covered in razor wire, with burglar bars over every window and security gates at every door, paying for armed response from private security companies when criminals break into their homes because the police are stretched too thin, often corrupt, and often incompetent. Is this true freedom? Are they so dumbed down that they can actually apply that lovely word, “freedom”, to such a way of life? All decent citizens are living behind bars in a giant prison, while armed and dangerous criminals – murderers, rapists, torturers – roam freely in the streets. The criminals are free, the law-abiding are prisoners. This is not true freedom, unless it be the freedom of the prison cell.

What good is the freedom to vote if you have to live behind locked and bolted doors, your children unable to play in their own yards (never mind in the streets) without being in danger? What good is it to be free to earn big salaries, when you are in constant danger of losing your money or possessions through house invasions, ATM attacks, car hijackings, and a thousand and one other ways? Are you able to rejoice in your so-called “freedom” when your wife has been raped, or your elderly parents have been brutally murdered in their beds? *This* is the “freedom” which the ruling Socialists and Marxists have bequeathed to the country, but they have lied to the populace. *This is not freedom, it is slavery:* bondage to Marxist masters, and imprisonment within a countrywide criminal haven where it is unsafe for law-abiding citizens of any race to sleep peacefully, travel safely, or truly enjoy the fruits of their labours.

And even apart from the shocking crime rate – even if there was no crime at all – are *all* South Africans actually free, today? No; white South Africans certainly are not. Black South Africans complained that under the “old” South Africa they were not free, and that when the new regime

became a reality all would be free, black and white; but this was just another one of their leaders' lies. In the old South Africa, blacks were discriminated against; now whites are. It is racism in reverse; discrimination in reverse. Whites, simply by virtue of the colour of their skin, are barred from many jobs via blatantly racist "affirmative action" policies. Are they, then, truly free in South Africa today? No, they are not. How, then, can the ANC claim that all South Africans, regardless of their skin colour, have a place in South Africa? Only by lying.

And what about the freedom to live as one pleases? Is this a reality in South Africa? Not at all. Thanks to politically-correct, insane "human rights" legislation, you are free to live as you please if you are a sodomite; but if you are a Christian, you are not free to live as you please. You are not free to operate a business according to your beliefs and conscience; nor to preach the Gospel without fear of persecution for "offending" someone or other, or "hurting" someone's over-sensitive "feelings". The overlords harp on constantly about "freedom", but in truth you are only free if you toe the party line. You cannot live as you please, unless you want to live in sin. *Then* you are free – free to sin openly – while anyone who dares to speak up against your sinful lifestyle is in danger of losing his freedom. What a farce! What a mockery of true freedom! But this is how Marxists the world over are pulling the wool of people's eyes: they are enslaving them in the name of "freedom". They are using Orwellian doublespeak – words are given entirely different meanings to what they have always had, sometimes even the very opposite meanings to what they used to mean. Who would have thought that "freedom" would be re-interpreted to mean "bondage"? Yet so it has come to pass. And the people can't even see it anymore, because they have been indoctrinated. Thus they sing and dance at "Freedom Day" rallies and parties countrywide, and have no concept of being enslaved. They sing and dance, then return to their locked and barred prisons which they call their homes, and grovel at the feet of their overlords, calling them "liberators", thanking them for their "freedoms" even while those same overlords shackle them ever more tightly. They are blindly convinced they are free, even though they live in a giant prison, cannot truly do as they please, cannot speak as they please, and pretty soon may not be free to even think as they please.

But here is the greatest tragedy of all: true freedom is not political, it is not economic: it is *spiritual*. And as South Africans (mainly blacks, but also many silly, ignorant whites) party at "Freedom Day" rallies and are exhorted to "celebrate their freedom from oppression", they are ignorant of the fact that they are the *slaves of sin!* They celebrate their farcical political "freedom", and know nothing of their spiritual bondage. They are "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1), slaves to Satan, and all the political liberty in the world will not avail them in the least, one millisecond after death. Hear the Word of the living God:

"Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant [slave] of sin" (Jn. 8:34). The multitudes who sing and dance their way through "Freedom Day" parties are the servants of sin. They are not free, for they do not possess the greatest and most important freedom of all: freedom from bondage to sin. "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants [slaves] to obey, his servants [slaves] ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Rom. 6:16). Those who obey sin are the slaves of sin. And no "Freedom Day" celebrations will change this state of heart.

Men are in "the snare of the devil", and are "taken captive by him at his will" (2 Tim. 2:26). Men think they are "free" because they can now vote, live where they like, and so on; but what is this "freedom" in the light of eternity? Nothing. All men are ensnared by the devil, and only Jesus Christ, God's Son, can set them free. As the Lord Jesus Himself said, in those beautiful words of Jn. 8:36: "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." *This* is true freedom! And how does the Son of God make a person free indeed? By causing him to be born again, and to hear and believe His Gospel: "ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (Jn. 8:32). What is the truth? It is Christ Jesus Himself, and the word of His Gospel: "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (Jn. 14:6); "thy word is truth" (Jn. 17:17).

True Christians know the truth of these wonderful words of real freedom: "But God be thanked, that

ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.... For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life” (Rom. 6:17-22).

True freedom is not political or economic; it is spiritual. This is why the Christian is truly free, even if he lives as a slave in some earthly country, or to some earthly government. He knows the truth of what Paul wrote: “For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord’s freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ’s servant” (1 Cor. 7:22). Even if a true Christian is a slave to some earthly master, he is free in Christ: free from bondage to sin and Satan. And even if he is not a servant on earth, he is a servant to Christ. So every true Christian is at one and the same time a slave, and a freeman! Free from bondage to sin and Satan, but willingly and joyfully in bondage to Christ his Lord and Saviour. For *true* freedom is not freedom *to* sin, as today’s wicked men and women think it is; it is freedom *from* sin! There is the world of difference between the two. The masses of unregenerate people in South Africa today think their political leaders have given them freedom, because they are now free *to* sin: free to live lives of sin, any way they please. This just means, however, that they are slaves to their sins, and to the devil! But the Lord Jesus Christ came into this world “to save his people *from* their sins” (Matt. 1:21). *This*, and this alone, is true freedom! And no government on earth can give this to anyone.

April 2015

Shaun Willcock is a minister of the Gospel. He runs Bible Based Ministries. For other articles (which may be downloaded and printed), as well as details about his books, audio messages, pamphlets, etc., please visit the Bible Based Ministries website; or write to the address below. If you would like to be on Bible Based Ministries’ email list, to receive all future articles, please send your details.

Bible Based Ministries

info@biblebasedministries.co.uk

www.biblebasedministries.co.uk

This article may be copied for free distribution if it is copied in full

WORLDWIDE CONTACT:

Contending for the Faith Ministries

42055 Crestland Drive

Lancaster, CA 93536

USA

BBMOrders@aol.com