

**PARADOX #1 – “Freedom Means Slavery ...
Slavery Means Freedom”**

PARADOX – “A seemingly contradictory statement that may
nonetheless be true.”

We find **PARADOXES** in LIFE and in the SCRIPTURES.

Can you ever be REALLY, TOTALLY “FREE”?

Romans 6:16-23

1.- Freedom Means Slavery – 6:16-17

- Before you were SAVED, you were “free” to live your life according to your own standards – Deuteronomy 12:8
- 1 You were “free” to ignore God’s rules.
- 2 You were “free” to ignore God’s plan of redemption – John 3:16
- 2 You were “free” to ignore God’s path of blessing.
 - But SIN has its CONSEQUENCES ... **6:16, 6:23**
- 1 You were “free” to ignore God’s purpose in your life – **6:20**

Sometimes we can ENVY the LOST – **Psalm 73**

- **73:3-5** – The lost seem to be enjoying living in sin – Heb. 11:25
- **73:16-17** – But then, the Psalmist went to “church”!
- **73:18** – He changed his mind!

The “freedom” of the lost, leads to the “slavery” of SIN.

2.- Slavery Means Freedom

When you trust Jesus, you’re set “free”.

- Jesus – John 8:34,36 ... Paul – Romans 8:2, Galatians 5:1

To be “free”, you must be a “slave” ... the **PARADOX!**

- SLAVERY doesn’t have to be all BAD ... it depends on the MASTER ... you can be a “slave/servant” of GOD!

Romans 6:17-18 – “slaves of righteousness” – 6:18, 6:19

- You’re a “slave” of SIN – **6:21** ... or a “slave” of RIGHTEOUSNESS – **6:22**
- **6:23** – Paul sums it up.

CONCLUSION: You’re a “slave” of SOMEBODY/SOMETHING.

- **6:16 ... 6:23** – Whose “slave” are you?
- Only being a “slave” of Christ ... can set you “free”!