**Freedom**

**You have made me stride freely,**

**and my feet do not slip.**

***(2 Samuel 22:37)***

**You shall know the truth,**

**and the truth shall set you free.**

***(St. John 8:32)***

**For the law of the Spirit of life**

**in Christ Jesus has set you free.**

***(Romans 8:2)***

**Now the Lord is the Spirit,**

**and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.**

***(2 Corinthians 3:17)***

**It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.**

**Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again**

**by a yoke of slavery.**

***(Galatians 5:1)***

**For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters;**

**only do not use your freedom**

**as an opportunity for self-indulgence.**

***(Galatians 5:13)***

**Act as free men,**

**not as men who use their liberty as a cloak for their maliciousness,**

**but as the servants of God.**

***(1 Peter 2:16)***

**Absolute freedom is being able to do what you please without considering anyone except the wife and kids, the company and the boss, neighbors and friends, the police and the government, the doctor and the church. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The prehistoric ancestor of “free” was a term of affection uniting the members of a family in a common bond, and implicitly excluding their servants or slaves -- those who were not “free.” *(John Ayto, in Arcade Dictionary of Word Origins)***

**Did you go out on your own at age 17? That’s the average. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Remember, it is possible, without alcohol, to have the two absolute requirements for mental health that alcohol seems to give you at first: a sense of your own worth and the ability to relate freely and to communicate comfortably with other people. In other words, you can know who you are and feel okay about yourself, and you can break out of loneliness to feel socially adequate. Your first drink was a poisonous bit of information. It told you how to get what you longed for, but in an inevitably destructive way, leading to alcoholism. Your recovery from this disease through treatment will address all the things about your life related to drinking. First you must eliminate alcohol before the benefits of psychosocial therapy can begin to take hold. Treatment works. And you will discover that the goal of addition and the goal of treatment are similar: to feel “normal.” But, in recovery, the rewards are permanent and are accompanied by an ever-increasing sense of freedom. *(James W. West, in The Betty Ford Center Book of Answers)***

**Uncertainty can be freeing, because isn't it so much easier to say "I just don't have the answer" than to concoct a structure that won't even stand up in a light wind, to support that which you wished were true? *(Alan Alda, in When Your Life Is on Fire, What Would You Save?)***

**Thank goodness we live in a free country where a man may say what he thinks -- that is if he isn't afraid of his wife, his neighbors, or his boss, and if he's sure that it won't hurt his business or reputation. *(Steve Allen)***

**The First Amendment’s guarantee of religious freedom has two parts, and the second one has been getting some long-deserved attention lately. In brief, the government cannot favor one religion over another; that’s the establishment clause. And second, it can’t favor secular over religious beliefs; that’s the free exercise clause. Last summer, the U. S. Supreme Court ruled in a Cleveland school-voucher case that parents could not be excluded from the program because they wanted to use their vouchers at religious schools. Now it has agreed to hear a Washington state case involving a law that denies merit scholarships to students who decide to study theology. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled in favor of the student whose scholarship was rescinded; 14 other states have similar laws. There aren’t that many people majoring in theology these days, but the Washington case offers the court a further opportunity to teach the lesson that the Constitution does not take sides in religious matters. *(Rocky Mountain News, May 22, 2003)***

**AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE: Fearlessly we live: Resting in the Lord, Expressing His joy and peace. Enfolded in His sheltering love, Doing His will, Omnipresence is our home. Mind omniscient is our perfect light. This then is Freedom. *(B. L. Wolfe)***

**You only are free when you realize you belong no place -- you belong every place. (*Maya Angelou, poet)***

**Freedom is a powerful animal that fights the barriers, and sometimes makes people wish for higher fences. *(Lance Morrow, in Time magazine)***

**A married couple was celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, states Katy Swanson of Bakersfield, California. All during the party, the wife was beaming, but the husband looked miserable. One of the guests finally asked him why he looked so upset. The husband replied, “Fifty years ago, her father and three big brothers came to me and said that if I didn't marry his daughter, they'd send me to jail for 50 years. I just can't help thinking that if I'd chosen jail, tomorrow I'd be a free man." *(Country magazine)***

**Welcome Freedom: What’s new at the Denver Zoo? A giant anteater, Camilo, which is Latin for “child born to freedom.” Camilo was born to Monita and Freedom on May 13. It is the first birth for Monita. Camilo and Monita may be viewed between 9 to 11 a.m. daily at the new Primate Panorama. *(Rocky Mountain News, July 21, 2006)***

**Anxiety is the dizziness of freedom. *(Soren Kierkegaard, philosopher)***

**Independence days around the world:**

**Brazil -- Independence Day is September 7**

**Costa Rica -- September 15**

**Ecuador -- August 10**

**Finland -- December 6**

**Greece -- March 25**

**Kenya -- December 12**

**Nigeria -- October 1**

**Panama -- November 3. *(The World Factbook -- CIA 2003)***

**Nothing is more unbearable, once one has it, than freedom. *(James Baldwin)***

**Schiller holds that freedom is not doing as we like, but becoming what we should. *(Eric Butterworth, in Discover the Power Within You, p. 19)***

**The beginning of freedom is the ignorance of common opinion. *(Joan Baumeister)***

**To belong nowhere is a blessing and a curse, like any kind of freedom. *(Leah Stewart, novelist)***

**Freedom is the birthright of all that lives. There is none who cannot claim that birthright. We know a labyrinth of self-imposing restrictions, or live in chains of self-wrought chaos, yet if we will do so we can free ourselves from these bonds. Freedom cannot be kept, nor won again once lost, without a discipline of soul, and many languish in slavery who will not embrace the effort of right discipline. When each has made the effort and disciplined his own spirit to a state of true freedom, then all other slaveries -- spiritual or material -- will vanish from our world. *(Janice Davis Given, in Illuminations)***

**All men are born free: just not for long. *(John le Carre, novelist)***

**While attending a convention, I breakfasted in a cafe, next to two gray-haired men from the same symposium. I overheard one remark, “You know, this is the first time in 40 years we've gone to one of these without our wives.” His pal leaned back, contemplating what such freedom might portend. “I know,” he said, laying his menu aside. “Let's have biscuits and gravy!” *(Cynthia Wall, in Reader's Digest)***

**First man: “Inside every human being is a burning desire to be free! An all-consuming longing for self determination!” Second man: “But what if the people in the Middle East really and truly don’t want democracy?” First man: “Then we shove it down their throats.” *(Bud Grace, in Piranha Club comic strip)***

**I mean, this the history of our country, the ability to stand up and say, “I believe this guy is a schmuck.” And he’s allowed to do that. *(Ken Burns, documentary filmmaker, defending Michael Moore’s right to make Fahrenheit 9/11, though Burns added that he wouldn’t make it “to save my life.”)***

**Free nations are peaceful nations. Free nations don’t attack each other. Free nations don’t develop weapons of mass destruction. *(George W. Bush)***

**They're buying them like they buy bread. They say they're buying freedom. *(Mohammed al-Mulla, who works in a Baghdad electronics store, discussing the soaring demand for satellite dishes since the fall of Saddam Hussein. (Associated Press)***

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**Freedom is nothing else but a chance to be better, whereas enslavement is a certainty of the worst. *(Albert Camus, in Resistance, Rebellion and Death)***

**There exists an obvious fact that seems utterly moral: namely, that a man is always a prey to his truths. Once he has admitted them, he cannot free himself from them. *(Albert Camus)***

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**Prior to our wedding, David and I met with the minister to discuss our marriage ceremony and various traditions, such as lighting the unity candle from two individual candles. Couples usually blow out the two candles as a sign of becoming one. Our minister said that many people were now leaving their individual candles lit to signify independence and personal freedom. He asked if we wanted to extinguish our candles or leave them burning. After thinking about it, David replied, “How about if we leave mine lit and blow out hers?” (*Cara Sue Taucher, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The House of Representatives has quietly changed the name of “freedom fries” and “freedom toast” on the Capitol cafeteria menu back to “French fries” and “French toast.” Two Republican committee chairmen ordered the name change in 2003, after France refused to support the U.S.’s decision to invade Iraq. *(The Washington Post, as it appeared in The Week magazine, August 18, 2006)***

**Freedom always carries a burden of proof, always throws us back on ourselves. *(Shelby Steele, in The Content of Our Character)***

**Do not free a camel of the burden of his hump; you may be freeing him from being a camel. *(G. K. Chesterton)***

**One: “Uh, this free range chicken? How fresh is it, and how do I know it's really free-range?” Other: “It was running when I ran over it this morning.” *(Jeff MacNelly, in Shoe comic strip)***

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**The problem of pain, of war and the horror of war, of poverty and disease is always confronting us. But a God who allows no pain, no grief, also allows no choice. There is little unfairness in a colony of ants, but also there is little freedom. *(Madeleine L'Engle, in Leadership)***

**We who lived in concentration camps can remember the men who walked through the huts comforting others, giving away their last piece of bread. They may have been few in number, but they offer sufficient proof that everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms -- to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way. *(Viktor Frankl, psychiatrist and author)***

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**In my country, the people can do as they like, although it often happens that they don't like what they have done. *(Winston Churchill)***

**If we are to remain a free and viable society, we need to spend less time looking at screens and more time looking into each other’s eyes. *(Glenn Close, American actress)***

**The poet Coleridge was visited by an admirer one day. During the conversation the subject got around to children. “I believe,” said the visitor, “that children should be given a free rein to think and act and thus learn at an early age to make their own decisions. This is the only way they can grow into their full potential.” “Come see my flower garden,” said Coleridge, leading the man outside. The visitor took one look and exclaimed, “Why that's nothing but a yard full of weeds!” “It used to be filled with roses,” said Coleridge, “but this year I thought I'd let the garden grow as it willed without tending to it. This is the result.” *(Martin Buxbaum)***

**First man: “Colorado used to be a place where a man could breathe free, now we’re just another part of the nanny state. You can’t even enjoy a smoke where you want to. Now you have to go outside, pretty soon there won’t be any freedoms left. I’ll be right back. Watch my gun for me, will you, pal?” Second man: “I swear, I don’t know whether to laugh or cry.” *(Ed Stein, in Denver Square comic strip)***

**Good week for: Strange bedfellows, after gay liberal icon Ellen DeGeneres was spotted at an NFL game chatting and laughing with former Republican President George W. Bush. “Just because I don’t agree with someone on everything doesn’t mean I’m not gonna be friends with them,” she later explained on her show. *(The Week magazine, October 18, 2019)***

**Nobody becomes a free and responsible citizen overnight or through osmosis. Democratic freedom takes practice. *(Charles C. Haynes, First Amendment Center, 2002)***

**When we lose the right to be different, we lose the privilege to be free.  
*(Evans Hughes, U.S. Supreme Court Justice)***

**The direction of escape is toward freedom. So what is “escapism” an accusation of? *(Ursula K. Le Guin)***

**When I discover who I am, I'll be free. *(Ralph Ellison)***

**If your dog is an unneutered 4-year-old male with reasonable freedom, the odds are that someplace out there he has 173 grandpups. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**A Persian army general offered condemned prisoners a choice -- a firing squad or what lay behind a door. None knew what existed behind the door, yet most chose the firing squad. The fear of prolonged, unimaginable torture moved them to face the known, rather than the unknown. When a reporter asked what was behind the door, the general responded, “Freedom, and I've met very few brave enough to try it.” *(Jan Brunette, in Portals of Prayer)***

**Mom driving her son to an appointment says to him: “I can’t wait until you’re sixteen and have your own driver’s license.” Son: “If I decide to get one.” Mom: “If?” Son: “Lessons, permit, practice, tests. You’re talking about a big commitment.” Mom: “I’m talking about my freedom!” *(Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman, in Zits comic strip)***

**Are soldiers still dying for freedom? For most Americans, Memorial Day simply marks the beginning of summer, said Andrew Bacevich. That’s what the holiday meant to me, too – until three years ago, when my son was killed fighting in Iraq. Now, when I visit his gravesite, I’m haunted by “uncomfortable questions” about why he and so many other brave Americans have died in the service of the country. We like to tell ourselves that “the fallen gave their lives so we might enjoy freedom,” and certainly that was true of those killed in the battle of Gettysburg or on Omaha Beach. But in recent decades, from Vietnam to Bosnia to Iraq to Afghanistan, “the connection between American military intervention and American freedom has become ever more tenuous.” In playing world policeman, the U.S. repeatedly has become “engaged in never-ending wars that we cannot win and cannot afford.” It’s easy to blame politicians for sending young men like my son to die in another nation’s civil war, fighting for goals no one can define. But as citizens of a democracy, we all bear some responsibility. Perhaps that’s worth thinking about, as we light up our barbecues and head to the beach. *(The Week magazine, June 11, 2010)***

**Earth, abundant with life, has an atmosphere composed of an unstable mixture of gases. If you bottled a sample of Earth’s atmosphere for a million years, the mingled gases would react with one another. But strangely, if the mixture is left outside the bottle, it stays reasonably stable because life forms absorb some of the gases and replenish others. *(Oliver Morton, in Discover magazine)***

**Only the educated are free. (*Epictetus)***

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**Everything that is really great and inspiring is created by the individual who can labor in freedom. *(Albert Einstein)***

**Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty. *(Albert Einstein)***

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**History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid. We hold it to be the first task of statesmanship to develop the strength that will deter the forces of aggression and promote the conditions of peace. *(Dwight D. Eisenhower)***

**Zoo elephants don’t live as long as those in the wild, according to a study in the journal Science. Researchers compared the life spans of elephants in European zoos with those living in Amboseli National Park in Kenya. 16.9 years is the median life span for African elephants in European zoos. 56 years is the median life span for the elephants who died of natural causes in Kenya’s park land. But, adding in those elephants killed by people in Africa lowered the median life span to 35.9 years. *(Associated Press, as it appeared in the Rocky Mountain News, December 12, 2008)***

**On November 12, 1954, Ellis Island, the gateway to America, shut its doors after processing more than 12 million immigrants since opening in 1892. Today, an estimated 40 percent of all Americans can trace their roots through Ellis Island. *(MOMENTS IN TIME, The History Channel)***

**No matter what a person believes in, we must hear it. That’s the essence of freedom. *(Alexander Meiklejohn, First Amendment scholar)***

**If we want to enjoy freedom, we must be prepared to extend it to everyone, whether they are rich or poor, whether they agree with us or not, no matter what their race or the color of their skin. *(Wendell Wilkie)***

**At times most of us quarrel with our fate: If only I were more intelligent, more successful, more assertive. If only my parents had been more loving. But this is a loss of time, a loss of energy, a loss of happiness. It is senseless, because fate is not subject to negotiation, change or compromise. Its “givenness” is total. But that is only half the story. For the total “givenness” of our fate is matched by the total freedom we have to react to our fate. It is as if we were dealt a hand of cards. Once we have them, we are free to play them as we choose.. *(G. Peter Fleck, in Come As You Are)***

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No man is ever free, and he couldn’t stand it if he were. *(William Faulkner)*

**This is a free country. Folks have a right to send me letters, and I have a right not to read them. *(William Faulkner)***

We must be free not because we claim freedom. but because we practice it. *(William Faulkner)*

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**Man: “I have to hand it to you, Clyde. You're a braver man than I am.” Clyde: “I don't know about that. I just like the feeling of freedom. It's more about comfort than anything.” Man: “Maybe, but I don't think I'd ever be comfortable in a skirt.” Clyde: “Kilt!” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**The truth shall make ye free, but first it shall make ye miserable. *(Quoted by Barry Stevens & Carol R. Rogers in Person to Person)***

**A live fish in the open sea never stops growing. (*L. M. Boyd)***

**Freedom is fragile and must be protected. To sacrifice it, even as a temporary measure, is to betray it. *(Germaine Greer, writer)***

**Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms – to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s own way. *(Viktor Frankl, Austrian psychiatrist, neurologist, and Holocaust survivor)***

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**Freedom is moving easy in harness. *(Robert Frost)***

**To be quite free one must be free to refuse. *(Robert Frost)***

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**All fear is a sign of want of faith. Cultivate the quiet courage of dying without killing. For man lives freely only by his readiness to die. *(Mahatma Gandhi)***

**Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes. *(Mahatma Gandhi)***

**Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes. *(Gandhi)***

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**During the astonishing events in East Germany last November, tennis star Steffi Graf tried for three days to phone a friend in West Berlin, only to be greeted by his answering machine: Sorry, I’m not here. I’m out partying and won’t be home for a while.” Steffi sounded wistful as she related the incident, as if there could be a better place to be that week than playing a championship tournament in Madison Square Garden. “I would love to have been part of that moment,” she says. More than a third of the mail to Graf’s home in Bruhl, West Germany, had been from East Germans. One letter, she remembers, came from a teenage player who wanted badly to compete in West Germany. “She asked me if I could help her in any way,” Graf relates. “She also said that, for once in her life, she would like to be able to see me play somewhere.” Now, maybe she can. *(Michael Janofsky, in New York Times, as it appeared in Reader’s Digest, March, 1990)***

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**How can I get away, when it takes all my strength just to be where I am? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Freedom emphatically does not include the freedom to get someone else sick. It does not include the freedom to refuse to wear a mask in the grocery store, sneeze on someone in the produce section, and give him the virus. That's not freedom for the person who is sneezed upon. For that person, the first person's "freedom" means chains -- potential illness and even perhaps a death sentence. No society can function on that definition of freedom. It is madness. Freedom means the freedom not to get infected by the idiot who refuses to mask up. *(Michael Tomasky, in The New York Times)***

**Mary: “Hah! A clean getaway! Freedom is ours!” Heart sings: “Born free! As free as the wind blows! As free as they grass grows.” Mary: “Yeah, just sing away, lady. You know how many camp demerits you get for unauthorized canoe usage?” Heart: “Aw, grow a spine, Mary! Fight the power!” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***

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**Forgetfulness is a form of freedom. *(Kahlil Gibran, American poet and artist)***

**Husband: “Do you ever regret giving up your freedom?” Wife: “No. I still feel free to go wherever life's road takes me. Only now I have somebody to change my flats!” *(Ted Dawson, in Spooner comic strip)***

**The child is grounded, sits in the corner of the room, and says to his Mom: “Gramma said the truth would set me free.” *(Steve Dickenson & Todd Clark, in Lola comic strip)***

**How to get in touch with Artemis (Greek goddess of independence):**

**Learn to establish boundaries. Practice saying no without feeling guilty. Choose to spend time with positive people who increase your energy rather than with people who deplete it. In all your activities, be clear about your purpose and do not be swayed by others’ opinions. Acknowledge to yourself the things you do well. Remember that you possess all the inner resources to achieve what you set out to do. Make a list of your short-term and long-term goals and read it out loud. (Hearing your own voice can have a deeper impact than reading in silence.) Envision your life as you wish it to be. Allow your imagination free rein. Take direct action to promote your physical well-being. Become aware of what helps you maintain an optimum level of energy. Leave the city behind, letting nature infuse your spirit. Take walks in the park or hikes in the woods. *(Agapi Stassinopoulos, in Conversations with Goddesses: Revealing the Divine Power Within You)***

**The surest guard against tyranny and arbitrary power, Ben Franklin came to believe, was free expression, the free flow of ideas and a free press. No tyrannical society can long exist, he felt, when it cannot control the flow of information and ideas. *(Walter Isaacson, in Time)***

**Have a good time when you’re fighting for freedom. We don’t always win, and it might be the only good time you have. *(Molly Ivins, columnist, in The Boston Globe)***

**Hero worship is strongest where there is least regard for human freedom. *(Herbert Spencer, British philosopher)***

**Unless a man has the talents to make something of himself, freedom is an irksome burden. *(Eric Hoffer)***

**Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul, as the swift seasons roll! Leave thy low-vaulted past! Let each new temple, nobler than the last, shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast, till thou at length art free. Leaving thine outgrown shell by life’s unresting sea! (*Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.)***

**If we don't believe in free expression for people we despise, we don't believe in it at all. *(Noam Chomsky, linguist)***

**This is the first of July. The Sunday before Independence Day; the 214th Independence Day that America has celebrated. In Canada, they celebrate the first of July and call it Canada Day, and in France they celebrate the 12th of July and call it Bastille Day. Every country sets aside a day in which to celebrate their independence because freedom is one of Man's most prized possessions. *(Foster McClellan, at Unity Village Chapel, on July 1st, 1990)***

**Regardless of how people treat you, determine your response by the criterion of inner freedom. How they behave is their business; how you respond is your own. *(J. Donald Walters)***

**For 35 years . . . Saddam fought our religion and traditions. Now we can smell the democracy and freedom all around us. We want good relations with the United States, but we don’t want them to interfere in our domestic affairs. *(Mohsen al-Kuriyshi, Shiite spokesman for the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq.) (Associated Press, as it appeared in the Rocky Mountain News, October 15, 2003)***

**Irreverence is the lifeblood of freedom. *(Simon Schama, historian)***

**It’s easy to be independent when you've got money. But to be independent when you haven't got a thing -- that's the Lord's test. *(Mahalia Jackson, American gospel singer)***

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**Where the press is free and every man able to read, all is safe. *(Thomas Jefferson)***

**Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom, a doctrine that spread throughout the United States. He is the father of our religious freedom. It is, next to the words of our independence, his greatest gift, save only perhaps our commitment to universal education, which also comes to us via Jefferson. *(Stephen E. Ambrose, in Smithsonian magazine)***

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**Jesus triumphed over physical forces and Death, the enemy of mankind, which can only destroy physical man. He rose with a spiritual body, the new Adam, free from all weaknesses and limitations which bind the body. His body was transfigured. Now he could pass through a closed door or move to another location without hindrance. Previously he was subject to hunger and thirst like ourselves but he never made such attempts. Now he has victoriously risen with a glorious body. *(George M. Lamsa, in Gospel Light, p. 157)***

**Two nations celebrate their independence on July 4: the United States and the Philippines. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**You are free and that is why you are lost. *(Franz Kafka)***

**Man: “I’m looking for the key to the universe.” Guru: “It isn’t locked!” *(Guru Sofarbeyondu comic strip)***

**Dolly says to her Mom: “Today we learned all about the Decoration of Independence.” (*Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**The Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948 states unequivocally: “Everyone has the right to leave any country including his own and to return to that country.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**If Martha Stewart had lied about weapons of mass destruction, she'd be a free woman today. *(Jay Leno, 2004)***

**I tire so of hearing people say, "Let things take their course." Tomorrow is another day. I do not need my freedom when I'm dead. I cannot live on tomorrow's bread. (*Langston Hughes)***

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**Freedom is not a state; it is an act. It is not some enchanted garden perched high on a distant plateau where we can finally sit down and rest. Freedom is the continuous action we all must take. *(Rep. John Lewis)***

**I appeal to all of you to get into this great revolution that is sweeping this nation. Get in and stay in the streets of every city, every village and hamlet of this nation until true freedom comes, until the revolution of 1776 is complete. To those who have said, “Be patient and wait,” we have long said that we cannot be patient. We do not want our freedom gradually. We are tired. We are tired of being beaten by policemen. We are tired of seeing our people locked up in jail over and over again. We want our freedom and we want it now.” *(The late John Lewis in 1963, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 31, 2020)***

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**Liberia, which means “land of the free,” was founded in 1820 by freed slaves from the United States. The country, in West Africa, was declared an independent nation in 1847. Its Independence Day is July 26. By 1867, the American Colonization Society had sent 13,000 black emigrants to Liberia. *(CIA World Factbook 2002, Afro-American Almanac)***

**Freedom has limits: for example: murder is not permitted, even in the privacy of one's own home. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves; and, under a just God, cannot long retain it. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

**There are those who will say that the liberation of humanity, the freedom of man and mind, is nothing but a dream. They are right. It is the American Dream. *(Archibald MacLeish, in A Continuing Journey)***

**One medieval map of reality held that Earth was God's chosen sphere, upon which was the only potential for life or value. Ptolemy's map of the universe placed a stationary Earth at the center of the universe, with the Sun and all the planets and stars revolving around it. When Copernicus published his theory of planetary motion, which accurately placed the sun at the center of the solar system, Earth was demoted to the status of an insignificant bit player in an infinite universal cast. The result of this shift in the map of reality was profound. Copernicus was beyond the reach of Rome, but Galileo, who provided data that backed up Copernicus, was put under house arrest, and was forced to recant under pressure of being burned at the stake, which was the fate of another Italian, Giordano Bruno. With the destruction of the Ptolemeic map, man was freed from being a slave-puppet in a rigid cosmic script, to a free-will, creative being. *(Gregory Barrette, Unity minister)***

**Romare: “Maureen, are you sure you really want to marry Clayton?” Maureen: “Yes, Romare. When you meet Clayton, you'll see why.” Romare: “I don't understand a guy who would let you go out with me on a date!” Maureen: “He couldn't make it and suggested that I go in his place! He's a Pastor. The job keeps him busy.” Romare: “If I had a woman like you, I wouldn't let you out of my sight! I'd keep you all to myself! Are you sure you've made the right decision?” Maureen: “Positive.” *(Robb Armstrong, in Jump Start comic strip)***

**No man is free -- who is not master of himself. *(Epictetus)***

**If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom, and the irony of it is that if it is comfort or money that it values more, it will lose that too. *(W. Somerset Maugham, in Strictly Personal)***

**Until you’ve lost your reputation, you never realize what a burden it was or what freedom really is. *(Margaret Mitchell)***

**The function of freedom is to free someone else. *(Toni Morrison)***

**August Wilson, the two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, often does his best work amid the clatter and clutter of a packed New York City coffee shop: I write on napkins. One time a waitress says to me, “Do you write on napkins because it doesn't count?" Bingo! That's exactly why I do it! When you're jotting things down on a napkin, you're not committing yourself. It's only a napkin, right? You can throw it away. You'd be surprised. It loosens you up -- it frees you. Some of the best stuff I've ever written has been done on napkins, and I never knew why. She hit it all nicely. *(Russell Miller, in New York Times)***

**The human animal needs a freedom seldom mentioned: freedom from intrusion. He needs a little privacy quite as much as he wants understanding or vitamins or exercise or praise. *(Phyllis McGinley, in The Province of the Heart)***

**Free is not the same as free and easy. *(Larry Eisenberg, in Bulletin Boarders – C.S.S.)***

# Freedom is nowhere to be found when the people are overtaxed and over-regulated. *(Douglas Wilder)*

**Why O'Brien doesn't fear obscurity: Conan O'Brien has already made his peace with being forgotten, said Dave Itzkoff in The New York Times. The late-night mainstay hosted The Tonight Show until 2010, moved to TBS, and after making no new shows since October, is returning with a half-hour format that looks like a half-step into retirement. "This concept that I must be the king of the night, I don't even know what that means anymore," says O'Brien, 55. "It's an outmoded concept." Two years after he makes his last shows, "It's going to be, Who's Conan? This is going to sound grim, but eventually, all our graves go unattended." O'Brien means this literally. He once visited former President Calvin Coolidge's Vermont resting place and found it desolate -- this despite America's 30th president being "pretty popular" in his day. He credits comic, actor-director Albert Brooks with liberating him from the frantic need to make a permanent mark on the world. "When I met him the first time, I said, you make movies, they live on forever. I just do these late-night shows, they get lost, they're never seen again and who cares?" Brooks, he says, replied, "What are you talking about? None of it matters. It doesn't matter. You'll be forgotten. I'll be forgotten. We'll all be forgotten." After that, O'Brien said, "I was walking on air. It was incredibly freeing." *(The Week magazine, February 1, 2019)***

**Gold medalist Katarina Witt became the darling of the East German sports system and a prisoner of its protocols when she took the women’s figure-skating title at the 1984 and 1988 Olympics. Then last fall the two Germanys became one, and everything in her life changed. For the first time, Witt could keep her own passport, earn her own money, go where she pleased. “Freedom. A whole new world opened to me,” she says. “I had a lot of possibilities after the Olympics, but I wasn’t able to do them. It was like being in a box, knocking on the walls, screaming ‘Let me out!’ Now people come to me and ask me what I want to do.” Still new to the thrills of capitalism, Witt has launched several business ventures. “What’s so great about now,” she muses, “is that I know if I fall on my butt doing one thing, I can try another.” *(Michael Janofsky, in New York Times)***

**The only freedom that exists in all of the Universe -- and, it is everything -- is in the knowledge that I create my own reality. And, that I can feel the way I choose to feel. *(Abraham/Hicks)***

**As long as men are free to ask what they must, free to say what they think, free to think what they will, freedom can never be lost, and science can never regress. *(J. Robert Oppenheimer, American physicist)***

**The people of Eastern Europe were looking for freedom -- not nobility -- when they took to the streets. That freedom includes the freedom to be ordinary -- to live and love, raise families and go to work, grow flowers and read novels -- to do all the things that people choose to do when they are left alone to choose. Human life and human longings are precious. And, contrary to the caricature of capitalism retailed on the nation's opinion pages, those longings include more than the desire for blue jeans and consumer electronics. Religion, art and science flourish best in a free society. *(Virginia I. Postrel, in Reason)***

**Freedom is the right to tell people what they do not want to hear. *(George Orwell)***

**Garfield: “Why doesn’t your owner let you run free?” Dog: “I mangle cats.” Garfield: “Freedom is overrated.” *(Jim Davis, in Garfield comic strip)***

**Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it. *(Thomas Paine)***

**I am in the process of making application for a pardon, knowing in my mind that spiritually I am free. *(Jeannie, prisoner)***

**Too much freedom seems to change into nothing but too much slavery. *(Plato)***

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**Pope John Paul II encouraged such dissidents as Poland’s Lech Walesa and Czechoslovakia’s Vaclav Havel to live “as if” they were free, undermining the elaborate system of lies that the communist system depended upon to survive. Once the pretenses were stripped away, more and more people realized they weren’t alone with their dissident thoughts and began to act upon them. In talking about Europe’s common spiritual genealogy, the pope was, in his own way, signaling that the Iron Curtain had to come down. *(Andrew Nagorski, in Newsweek, April 11, 2005, p. 47)***

**Every generation of Americans needs to know that freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought. *(Pope John Paul II)***

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**In the wake of World War II, an attitude permeated Washington that the government is always right. This came out of the war experience, when to think otherwise was almost treason. Presidents, the civilian bureaucracy and the military knew best because they had better information. That is the most important change we've experienced in our history. Today there is nothing on which government has as much expertise as the private sector. The people don't have to take the government's word for everything. They make their own judgments. That is not distrust. It is the predicate for freedom. *(Horace W. Busby)***

**If we wish to preserve a free society, it is essential that we recognize that the desirability of a particular object is not sufficient justification for the use of coercion. *(Friedrich Hayek)***

**Freedom of the press is limited to those who own one. *(A. J. Liebling)***

**Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are people who want crops without ploughing the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning; they want the ocean without the roar of its many waters. *(Frederick Douglass)***

**The one thing more difficult than following a regimen is not imposing it on others. *(Marcel Proust)***

**A Texas high school student was ejected from her graduation ceremony for pumping her fist in jubilation. Samantha Medina of Warren High School in San Antonio also allegedly waved to the crowd, thereby violating a school-district policy against graduating students “raising their hands above their waists for any reasons other than receiving the diplomas or shaking hands." District spokesman Pascual Gonzalez underscored the seriousness of the offense. “She was twirling in the line," said Gonzalez. “She was waving. She was not acting like she was instructed to." *(The Week Magazine, June 16, 2006)***

**Questioned by his son how soon he'd he old enough to do just as he pleased, a wise father answered: "I don't know, son -- nobody has ever lived that long, yet." *(Brian L. O'Connor)***

**Rabies is more common in cats than dogs because more cats run free. *(L. M. Boyd)***

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**Freedom is the deepest and noblest aspiration of the human spirit. *(Ronald Reagan)***

**Freedom is the fragile thing and is never more than one generation away from extinction. *(Ronald Reagan)***

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**The only man who is really free is the one who can turn down an invitation to dinner without giving an excuse. *(Jules Renard)***

**The truly free man is he who knows how to decline a dinner invitation without giving an excuse. *(Jules Renard)***

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**Young people often yearn for freedom and independence as a good in itself, unfettered by obligations and duty. This drive is a part of the process of growing up, of cutting the apron strings and preparing for adult life. The parents fail in their duty to their children if they let this tendency go unchecked and do not insist that children exercise their freedom in the context of responsibilities to parents and family, to friends and those in authority. For the adult world that a child so ardently desires to attain is also a world in which freedom is greatly modified by circumstances, by concrete obligations and limitations. Only in this real world of daily life, not in some ideal order, does human freedom exist. *(Walter Ciszek, S.J., in He Leadeth Me)***

**Freedom never yet was given to nations as a gift, but only as a reward, bravely earned by one's own exertions. *(Lajos Kossuth)***

**Freedom is the right to be wrong, not the right to do wrong. *(John G. Diefenbaker)***

**The largest free-flowing river left in the 48 contiguous states is the 671-mile Yellowstone. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**When you have robbed a man of everything, he's no longer in your power. He is free again. *(Alexander Solzhenitsyn)***

**Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere. Our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights and keep them. Our strength is our unity of purpose. To that high concept there can be no end save victory. *(Franklin D. Roosevelt)***

**Pop art sculptors Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen created Cleveland’s 48-foot-long rubber stamp with the word “free,” in backward letters. Dedicated in 1991, the stamp lies on its side, as though it tumbled over, in Willard Park, Ohio. *(American Profile magazine)***

**You dream of escape; but do not run away in order to be free. If you fly from yourself, your prison will run with you. *(Gustave Thibon, French philosopher)***

**The human rights group Freedom House has appropriately moved Russia onto its list of countries that are “not free” for the first time since the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union. The group cites the Kremlin’s restriction of human rights, control over the media, flouting of the rule of law, and President Vladimir Putin’s recent heavy-handed meddling in neighboring countries, such as Ukraine. *(Rocky Mountain News, December 22, 2004)***

**Freedom is what you do with what’s been done to you. *(Jean-Paul Sartre)***

**What is the essence of America? Finding and maintaining that perfect, delicate balance between freedom "to" and freedom "from." *(Marilyn vos Savant, in Parade magazine)***

**Most of us are proud of our freedom to say what we please. What we wish we had is the courage to say it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Dean: “Well, this is it. No turning back now. Our last chance to breathe the sweet air of freedom. Tomorrow the prison doors clank shut and don't open again until next June!” Heart: “It's just school, Dean. Sheesh, and they call me a drama queen.” Dean: “My Mom is quite a prankster. Look, she bought me a tin cup to bang on the bars.” *(Mark Tutulli, in Heart Of The City comic strip)***

**Overheard: “My great-grandfather came to the United States seeking freedom. It didn’t work. My great-grandmother came over on the very next boat.” *(Ron Dentinger, in the Dodgeville, Wisconsin, Chronicle)***

**Freedom is the right to do what you ought to do. *(Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, American religious leader)***

**Wild sheep don’t bear wool. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 104)***

**When I signed the Declaration of Independence I had in view not only our independence from England but the toleration of all sects. *(Charles Carrol, last surviving signer of the Declaration, in a letter to G. W. Parke Custis)  
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**The last state to officially abolish slavery was Mississippi – and it wasn’t until 1995 that it happened. *(Samantha Weaver, in Tidbits)***

**The first U.S. Chief Justice, John Jay, bought slaves in order to free them. Signing a memorial to Congress for the abolition of slavery was the last public act of Benjamin Franklin. (*Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts, p. 138 and 141)***

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**Why are societies with the most freedom never the safest ones? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**If everything would be permitted to me, I would feel lost in this abyss of freedom. *(Igor Stravinsky)***

**Tell the boss what you really think of him . . . and the truth shall set you free. *(Railway Clerk)***

**If you’ve lived all your life in a prison camp, when you are let out, you do not become free. That’s not what freedom is. You’re just in another space. *(Svetlana Alexievich, Nobel laureate, in Los Angeles Review of Books)***

**If there is any principle of the Constitution that more imperatively calls for attachment than any other it is the principle of free thought – not free thought for those who agree with us but freedom for the thought that we hate. *(Joseph Pulitzer, newspaper publisher, 1910)***

**To live in freedom, one must grow used to a life full of agitation, change, and danger. *(Alexis de Tocqueville)***

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**The only truly free person is the one who cares about nothing. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**When you truly grow up what you will be is free. *(Emmanuel)***

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**Freedom is still expensive. It still costs money. It still costs blood. It still calls for courage and endurance, not only in soldiers, but in every man and woman who is free and who is determined to remain free. *(Harry S Truman)***

**The truth will set you free, but not until it is finished with you. *(David Foster Wallace)***

**Were you aware that turkeys of the wild variety can fly as fast as 55 mph? *(L. M. Boyd)***

**There are two freedoms: the false where a man is free to do what he likes; the true where a man is free to do what he ought. *(Charles Kingsley)***

**Every tyrant who has lived has believed in freedom – for himself. *(Elbert Hubbard)***

**Many politicians lay it down as a self-evident proposition that no people ought to be free till they are fit to use their freedom. The maxim is worthy of the fool in the old story who resolved not to go into the water till he had learned to swim. *(Thomas Babington Macaulay)***

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**Repetition makes us feel secure and variation makes us feel free. *(Robert Hass, poet)***

**The freedom of any society varies proportionately with the volume of its laughter. *((Zero Mostel)***

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**Vatican City, the world’s smallest independent state, isn’t allowed to sign the United Nations’ Declaration of Human Rights because it doesn’t have freedom of religion. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**I am always free, even when I am in prison! My thoughts, my dreams, my aspirations cannot be physically destroyed. The truth is always the truth. Christ lost physically as a man, but we now see that he won. Without faith in God, I wouldn’t have held up. I can’t imagine living without faith, and I think the majority of Poles feel the same way. *(Lech Walesa)***

**Freedom is doing what you like. Happiness is liking what you do. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**I’m not sure on which side of the prison walls the worst people are to be found. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**To be free is to have achieved your life. *(Tennessee Williams, American playwright)***

**When I'm free, I wish I were busy -- and when I'm busy, I wish I were free. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Freedom for the wolves has often meant death to the sheep. *(Isaiah Berlin, in The New York Times)***

**The word “Freedom” needs to always have a special ring to us, as it literally means “free dominion,” or “dom” a condition of Being. Every “New Thought” minister hears the term “free Spirit” often! *(Rev. Andy Kress)***

**When Dad was my age, he was looking for a job and didn’t have a dime. He has worked in a factory all his life, 40 hours a week. I work, sometimes more than 40 hours, but I have freedom. I do this for myself. *(Ron Gazija, in Reader’s Digest)***

**You must learn one thing: The world was made to be free in. Give up all the other worlds except the one to which you belong. *(David Whyte)***

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