

FAITH & FREEDOM

LESSON 2: Freedom Principles (part 1)

First Baptist Church Chappell Hill, Sunday, September 19, 2021

KILLING FREEDOM

- * Attack the FOUNDATION(S) — work to change the core institutions, ideology and beliefs upon which the nation was founded, rewrite / cancel history
- * Attack the STRUCTURE — undermine the rule of law on multiple fronts, cause chaos, overwhelm the system
- * Attack the PEOPLE — incite division and tolerate no rivals, marginalize / boycott opposition
- * Seize POWER — target, take over and weaponize institutions, use ideas / revisionism / indoctrination and ultimately force to empower the leaders of the movement

THE FALL

- * Looking at the Fall in Genesis 3...
- * Humanity in a utopia of ordered liberty
- * SATAN — who is he, how does he operate, what are his goals? (John 8:44; 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Cor. 2:11, 10:3-5)
- * What is the nature of his interaction with Eve?
 - * How does he attack FOUNDATIONS?
 - * Deception, revision, appeal to pride, humanism
 - * “**Deceptionism**” — promise plus deception, usually based on challenging accepted norms or truths
- * What are some children of humanism? atheism, scientism, idolatry, Darwinism, utilitarian ethics, ethical egoism
- * Fall results in the law of sin and death (Romans 5:12)

FREEDOM PRINCIPLES

- * “Exodus is history’s supreme precedent and pattern for revolutionary change and therefore for hope and the very notion of possibility. After the exodus, as Rabbi Sacks notes, the world has never been the same. The contagion of freedom has been released...But Exodus not only models freedom, it has also launched a successful and sustained critique of the abuse of power that continues to this day. Contrary to the dictators of history and the apostles of postmodernism, power is no longer self-evident and self-justifying. Might no longer means right.” — Os Guinness, *The Magna Carta of Humanity*
- * So what are some freedom principles we can observe about the exodus?

FREEDOM PRINCIPLES

- * **Principle 1:** Freedom must be won.
- * What are the big conflicts in Exodus?
 - * Between Moses and Pharaoh?
 - * Between God and the “gods” of Egypt? (Ex. 5:2, 7:5)
 - * Between freedom and tyranny?
- * Their freedom included freedom to do what?
- * Liberation and freedom are not the same. (Ex. 13:17-18)
 - * Did God ever intervene to change human nature?
 - * How does tyranny affect change to human nature?

FREEDOM PRINCIPLES

- * **Principle 2:** Freedom must be ordered and cultivated.
- * What is the relationship between trust and freedom? Contrast a high trust / trustworthy society and one built on suspicion?
- * Does a humanistic society build on trust or suspicion?
- * How would the covenantal system of Exodus foster the concepts of loyalty and trust? (see Deut. 28) Can we analogize to other covenant areas?
- * A covenantal society is one “founded by a common binding agreement between the people in order to found what is essentially a republic or commonwealth—supremely the Jews, the Swiss, and the Americans.” — Os Guinness