"Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." (II Cor. 3:17)

Noah Webster defines liberty as "freedom from restraint, in a general sense, and applicable to the body, or to the mind." Freedom is defined as "a state of exemption from the power or control of another; liberty; exemption from salvery, servitude or confinement." Independence is defined by Webster as "a state of being not dependent; complete exemption from control or the power of others; as the independence of The Supreme Being."

Liberty is a Biblical word first found in Leviticus 25:10—"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." This, of course, is found inscribed on the Liberty Bell and is precious to all Americans, especially in this bicentennial year. It is well to remember that true liberty is an accompaniment of the Holy Spirit and is not a privilege but a true gift from God. The Scripture warns of the mis-use of liberty ("not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness but as the servants of God"), (I Peter 2:16). "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty as an occasion to the flesh (i.e., it is spiritual), but by love serve ye one another" (Gal. 5:13).

Freedom is found only twice in the Holy Bible and in both instances concerns freedom from slavery. Independence is not a Scriptural word. Doubtless, this implies that freedom and independence are truly attributes of God and only to be shared by man under His direct and total control. In a new book, "God Reveals the Identity of the Beast", the author states the temptation of Eve: "We learn from Satan's statement to Eve, 'You will be like God'; that Satan is getting down to the real business of being independent. We should learn from this temptation to be extremely cautious of any system, philosophy, government, or way of life in a society that develops an attitude of independence in its people and 'uses the name of God' as its thrust in promoting its ideas."

Today the power of Satan is rapidly spreading this fierce attitude of independence or rebellion against authority. Daily, we find our news reports filled with case after case of rebellion against the home, educational institutions, employers, governments, law enforcement, church leaders, and almost anyone who has authority.

After the writing of the "Declaration of Independence" which indicated a statement of no longer being controlled by England, our forefathers established a UNION. Although no longer dependent upon England we were seen at once to be dependent upon one another. Men were given liberty not to become independent of God and of one another but to be free under God to worship and live under constituted authority as long as that constituted authority remained oriented toward God.

Today another characteristic of Christians is the attitude of independence. How often we see people leaving one church and constructing their own church on their own group feeling that they have their own personal revelation. Some of this may be necessary as major church bodies become independent of God and His Holy Spirit. However, we must be on guard lest we ourselves use our liberty in the Spirit to become a soulish attitude of independence. As Christians cut themselves off from assembling together in Jesus they become prey to Satan and subject to all of the destruction which the anti-christ system levels at those who become independent of spiritual fellowship. Have you left church or fellowship because of your own personal revelation, because you have your own personal ministry or because you can no longer be under the "bondage" of church or Christian assembly? Be very careful that you are not succumbing to the attitude of Eve, who chose to believe Satan in order to become as God—(independent)—to become wise (soulish) rather than to remain in the garden with true liberty in God's Spirit.

NOTE: Sony video tapes are available from CMF for medical, nursing or Christian group showings:
1) Dr. Reed and Pat Robertson—700 Club
2) Dr. Reed and Roy Leep—CMF Tape—Discussion of Coma

WSR
DAILY PRAYERS AT 1 PM IN THE CMF CHAPEL. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!

MONDAY - Every Monday - 6:30 AM. Men's Prayer Breakfast, CMF House. Come!!

TUESDAY - Every Tuesday - 10 AM. Ladies' Bible Study and Sandwich Luncheon. BRING A SANDWICH, PLEASE! Kay is now teaching Luke's Gospel. The Clinical Correlation of the Gospel by Dr. Reed at 1 PM. Healing Service at 2 PM.

WEDNESDAY - January 7 - 8:30 to 10 PM. Dr. Reed and Roy Leep on Christian Broadcasting Cable T. V., Bradenton, Fla. Call Ruth Brown, 813/748-4949 for further information.

FRIDAY - January 16 - 8 PM. St. Petersburg CMF Station Meeting at St. Petersburg Federal Savings & Loan, 83rd Ave. at 9th St., St. Petersburg, Fla. Dr. Reed speaking.

SATURDAY - January 17 - 8 AM. Plant City CMF Station Meeting at Johnson's Restaurant, Plant City, Fla. Dr. Reed speaking.

SATURDAY - January 17 - 7:30 PM. Tampa CMF Station Meeting at CMF House, 4821 Memorial Highway, Tampa, Fla. Dr. Reed speaking.


FRIDAY - January 23 - 7:45 PM. Orlando CMF Station Meeting at Dover Shores Branch of First Federal Savings & Loan, 3212 Curry Ford Road, Orlando, Fla. Roy & Frances Leep, leaders. For information call 305/647-4667, 445-2511, or 894-6150. Do not call First Federal Savings & Loan.

SATURDAY - January 24 - 7:30 PM. Daytona-CMF Station Meeting at Holy Trinity by-the-Sea, North Grandview at Ora, Daytona Beach, Fla. For information call Father David Dillon, Jr., 904/252-8997. Roy & Frances Leep, leaders.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: In December Christian Medical Foundation was able to purchase the property immediately to the west of our present property, which consists of approximately five acres of land. Due to the generosity of the man who owns the property and through his most generous donation, we were able to effect this purchase. We hope in the near future to be able to announce the beginning of work on the Bethesda building. We plan to build this building increment by increment as God gives us the ability. We do not plan to become debt-burdened in order to construct the Bethesda building. If God blesses you and indicates you are to be part of the vision here at CMF please know that your tax-deductible gift is always urgently needed.

NEEDED: A Christian retired or retiring physician for Penny Farms Retirement Community, Jacksonville, Fla. Also, anyone interested in short-term missionary duty in Honduras should write Dr. Bob Hagstrom, 9th Ave. No. at Broadway, Billings, Mont. 59101.