

## Faith Matters Part 2- True Freedom

When the Bible is more faithfully believed, more accurately understood and more lovingly applied, lives change, communities flourish and cultures are transformed.

*14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. 1 Corinthians 2:14*

*“Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.” Genesis 15:9*

*“I will send venomous snakes among you, vipers that cannot be charmed, and they will bite you,” declares the Lord. Jeremiah 8:17*

*Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. 1 Peter 2:1-3*

If you claim to be a follower of Jesus and you have no desire to know him better through His word, then you need to seriously consider what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

*“I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind. Jeremiah 17:10*

*37 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; 39 and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew 24:37-39*

If we only kept the parts of the Bible that are easy to understand I would have a god who did nothing, said nothing, and ultimately accomplished nothing.

Our society has elevated human opinion as the greatest and most authoritative source for finding meaning and truth.

*Pluralism is the view that every person has a perspective on truth that is just as valid as everyone else’s perspective—therefore, we should not say that anyone else’s religion or ethical standard is wrong. According to pluralism, we cannot know any absolute truth; we can only have our own views and perspectives. - Wayne Grudem*

God gave us a spirit which enables us to interact with him.

**16 And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die." Genesis 2:15-17**

**4 "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:4-5**

**21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21**

Jesus' death on a cross can give us the true freedom that Adam and Eve once had in God and it only costs us the illusion of freedom that we have found in ourselves.

We just have to trust that God's Word is true even when we are enticed to believe that it is not.