## "Liberty through Surrender"

- I. Our Religious Liberty theme, "To Set at Liberty" is from Luke 4:18 (KJV).
  (The complete verse actually reads, "to set at liberty them that are bruised". Bruised by what? Sin. This involves more than the 5.5 billion people who live in a religiously repressive country.)
- II. We have all been bruised by sin. Everyone who has committed sin has lost their liberty or freedom. True and complete freedom only comes from Jesus. **John 8:33-36**"In the change that takes place when the soul surrenders to Christ, there is the highest sense of freedom." *The Desire of Ages, by Ellen White, page 466*
- III. The only way to be free from sin is to become a servant of God. **Romans 6:18**
- IV. The only way to be a servant of God is to yield our will to Him. **Romans 6:19**
- V. Before we can be free from our sinful self, we must be born again. John 3:3
  "Until you have given up yourself to Him, you will not have a real self."
  Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis, page 190

- VI. The only way to be born again is to comply with the law of the Spirit of life in Christ. **Romans 8:1-4**
- VII. What is the law of the Spirit of life in Christ?

  Romans 8:10-13 and Galatians 2:20

"I knew Jesus, and He was very precious to my soul: but I found something in me that would not keep sweet and patient and kind. I did what I could to keep it down, but it was there. I besought Jesus to do something for me, and when I gave Him my will, He came into my heart, and took out all that would not be sweet, all that would not be kind, all that would not be patient, and then He shut the door." *George Fox* 

VIII. The only way to remain completely free as a disciple of Jesus is to deny ourselves and take up the cross of our crucifixion daily. Luke 9:23-26 "The surrender of all our powers to God greatly simplifies the problem of life. It weakens and cuts short a thousand struggles with the passions of the natural heart."

My Life Today by Ellen White, page 6