

Remember, " . . . if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."⁶ Don't put it off. Ask Jesus to help you right now!

Bible References: ¹Gal. 5:13; ²1 Cor. 5:11; ³1 Cor. 6:9, 10; ⁴1 Cor. 3:16-17; ⁵Gal. 6:7-8; ⁶John 8:36.

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"CAN I BE A CHRISTIAN AND STILL..."



It is impossible to fully comprehend the vastness of the grace of God. He has given those who know Him such wonderful liberty by releasing them from every bondage.

If we realize that God knows what is best, and follow His will for our lives, we can be spared many unnecessary sorrows. Ultimately, His way is our only hope of being truly free.

But is it possible to overstep the boundaries of freedom and again become a slave of sin? The Bible says, yes! "You my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature . . ."1

Many people presume that God is virtually unconcerned about what we do after we become Christians. Nothing could be further from the truth. Should a father lose his concern for his children after they are born? Of course not. God, throughout the Bible, provides a clear structure for how He desires His people to live; "**. . . you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater, slanderer, a drunkard, or a swindler.**"2

It goes on further to mention other kinds of people. "**Do not be deceived; neither . . . adulterers nor male prostitute nor homosexual offenders . . . will inherit the Kingdom of God.**"3

Our goal should not be to see how close we can get to the edge of the road but how close we can stay to the center. Clearly, God the Father is setting limits on how He wants His children to act. Any good parent would do the same.

There are other warnings in the Bible concerning doing things that will harm our physical bodies. "Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple."4

The overall principle being presented in the Word of God is this: "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."5

My friend, don't deceive yourself. Are you doing things to please your sinful nature or to please God? **You may have convinced yourself that you are free to behave this way, but are you really in bondage to do it?** If you are free to do it, or not do it, then why don't you stop? Ask God to forgive you and He will give you the power to be truly freed from the bondage you are under.