

**SET ME FREE**



**Acts 15:1-2, “Some men came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the brothers: ‘Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved.’ This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question.” (NIV)**



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# THE CHAINS THAT BIND

- Acts 15 – Judaism and obedience to the law
- Today – legalism, humanism or any other form of 'ism'



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**1 Corinthians 1:20-25, “Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know Him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.**



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**SET ME FREE**

**Jews demand miraculous signs and  
Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach  
Christ crucified: a stumbling block to  
Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to  
those whom God has called, both Jews  
and Greeks, Christ the power of God  
and the wisdom of God. For the  
foolishness of God is wiser than man's  
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**Law/Rules =  
Self glorifying**

**Grace =  
God glorifying**



**SET ME FREE**

## WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

*“When people get saved they just know what to do by means of the Holy Spirit.”*

The Holy Spirit’s ministry in the world is to: “convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.” (John 16:8-NLT)



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# WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

*Do you know why the  
Word of God says...?*

**Romans 14:13, “Let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother’s way.” (NIV)**



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# WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

*Do you know why the  
Word of God says...?*

**1 Corinthians 6:18, “Flee from  
sexual immorality.” (NIV)**



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# WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

*Do you know why the  
Word of God says...?*

**2 Timothy 2:22, “Flee the evil  
desires of youth, and pursue  
righteousness, faith, love and  
peace...” (NIV)**



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# WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

*Do you know why the  
Word of God says...?*

**1 Peter 1:15-16, “Just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’” (NIV)**



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# WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

## Romans – Jerusalem Church

Romans 14:13, “Let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother’s way.” (NIV)



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# WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

## Corinthians – Church in Corinth

1 Corinthians 6:18-19, “Flee from sexual immorality . . . Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?” (NIV)



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## WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

**Timothy – A young Pastor**  
**2 Timothy 2:22, “Flee the**  
**evil desires of youth, and**  
**pursue righteousness,**  
**faith, love and peace...”**

**(NIV)**

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# WHAT ABOUT LIVING HOLY LIVES?

**Peter – Persecuted Christians scattered throughout Asia Minor**

**1 Peter 1:15-16, “Just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’” (NIV)**



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# RELEASING THAT WHICH BINDS

Stop trying to earn God's love!

Romans 5:8, "God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (NIV)



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# RELEASING THAT WHICH BINDS

## Receive His Gift!

“God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.”

(Ephesians 2:8-10-NLT)

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# RELEASING THAT WHICH BINDS

## Receive His Gift!

Romans 10:9-10, “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.” (NIV)



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# RELEASING THAT WHICH BINDS

Remind yourself that the  
good old days were not!

Galatians 4:8-9, “Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods. But now that you know God — or rather are known by God — how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?” (NIV)



**SET ME FREE**

*New York Times* reporter,  
Nicholas Kristof



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