



“Freedom”

Rev. David J. Bauer

Our news space has been taken up lately by the Supreme Court’s recent ruling that a Christian baker in a cake shop can refuse to make a cake for a customer that would compromise his religious and Christian belief. Some may not like that decision, but that is the price of freedom. People can take their demonstration and their signs to the streets in lawful protests as they see fit for perceived wrongs. That is the price of freedom. Folks can own firearms as long as they practice lawful restraint and are law abiding citizens. We are a free country and have the right to bear arms. That is the price of freedom. People in this country may choose to disrespect our National Anthem, trample on the ground or burn our flag, publicly castigate our President of the United States, as well as the local police department. All of the above is a valid part of our liberty and the cost of our freedom no matter how we may find fault with the method of those who protest. We have the closest to absolute freedom in this country.



Rev. David J. Bauer BRM
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In chapter 8 of John’s Gospel Jesus equated real freedom with truth. Jesus points the way out of bondage and into true liberty.

First, Jesus claimed to be the light of the world –John 8:12. A light in the darkness will show us the way, because light exposes the pitfalls of darkness. In demonstrating His light by healing a blind man, Jesus gives us the role of being lights in a very dark world –John 9:5; Phils. 2:15-15.

Second, Jesus claimed to have the truth as His record –John 8:12-18. He told his enemies to check his record and whether His record was true or not. He also claimed that His justice was true. He further asserted that it was not only His words but also His Father’s words which bore record (witness) to His truth. When we reject the record (or even existence) of truth there is no real justice. If the Bible and its principles are true, it must weigh heavy in the justice system of our courtrooms. If the Scriptures are put aside and truth and justice are subject to our culture, then some day in a specific culture even cannibalism may be right.

Third, Jesus was dogmatic and exclusive, even to a state of being intolerant of other opinions –John 8:21-24. He did the non political thing: He told religious people that they would die in their sins, without remedy. He also indicated that there was only one way that they could avoid dying in their sins. To NOT believe in Him meant dying without remedy –Vs. 23-24. Jesus did not care about being popular or well received, nor who might be offended. He would not accommodate to the religious ideas or culture of His day. He was not trying to cater to people’s self esteem.

But in our multi-culture world of today, truth loses out to “niceness.” We do not want to offend anyone, any religious group, cultural group, or anyone of our multi-gender species or sub-group we might align

ourselves within our modern society. Everyone seems so intent in creating his or her own truth, that we have sacrificed real truth and all genuine rationality that might lead us to this real truth. To the society today we must rightfully declare: “You can have your own ‘reality,’ but never your own truth!” There is but one truth, and Jesus proclaimed it.

Finally, Jesus taught that real truth could be actually known, and that there would be real freedom in knowing –John 8:28-36. He said there must be a literal crucifixion in order for there to be real freedom –V 28. There is also a literal word for us to obey –V. 31. If we would believe in a crucified Christ and obey His word, there would be a literal truth that we could know. We need not be agnostic in knowing this truth. Jesus said that we can know it and that it will set us free!

Then said Jesus to those Jews who believed on Him, “If you continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed; And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” -John 8:31-32. “If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed” –John 8:36.

There is a real freedom which rests in knowing that we are believing in the absolute truth of the gospel record, but there is bondage in not knowing the truth. God’s Son paid the price for us to know the truth and to free us.

These things I have written to you who believe on the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God -1 John 5:13.

This means to reject (repent of) all other false systems and cling to the truth of the gospel: That Jesus Christ died for me, and that He was buried and rose again the third day for me. Cling to that alone! –1 Corinth. 15:3-5

The Lighter Side... Military Quotes:

'If the enemy is in range, so are you.'

-Infantry Journal

'It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed.'

-US. Air Force Manual

'Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword, obviously never encountered automatic weapons.'

-General MacArthur

'Five second fuses last about three seconds.'

-Infantry Journal

'Any ship can be a minesweeper... Once.'

-Naval Ops Manual

'Never tell the Platoon Sergeant you have nothing to do.'

-Unknown Infantry Recruit

'If you see a bomb technician running, try to keep up with him.'

-Infantry Journal

'You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3.'

-Paul F. Crickmore (SR71 test pilot)

'When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane, you always have enough power left to get you to the scene of the crash.'

-Multi-Engine Training Manual

'The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire.'

-Unknown Author



Pork and Beans

1 lb. can Pork and Beans

1 lb. Hamburger

½ cup of Chopped Onions

1 Tbs. Worchester Sauce

½ cup of Catsup

2 Tbls. Vinegar

¼ Tsp. Tabasco Sauce

½ Tsp. Salt and Pepper

Brown Hamburger and Onions, drain grease and mix with other ingredients.

Bake at 350 degrees for about one hour or use a crock pot to slow cook the mixture.



Storage: Store those clutter-making envelopes of soup, sauce, and salad dressing mixes in a paper napkin holder to help keep your cupboards neat.

...Or, tack a small plastic freezer container to the inside of a kitchen cupboard door to store these envelopes.

Save plastic margarine containers. When there is an ice cream or frozen yogurt sale, take advantage of it, fill the containers three-quarters full of ice cream or frozen yogurt, add different toppings, and store in freezer for quick inexpensive desserts.

In season, when you have too much fruit to process for jelly at one time, cook the fruit, strain the juice, pour it into freezer containers, and freeze until you have time to make the jelly.

Freeze fresh fish fillets in plastic bags floating with several ounces of water around fish. The pieces will avoid freezer burn indefinitely.

Shelling Brazil Nuts is simple when they have been frozen. The shells are brittle, and the meats will come out whole.

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Rev. David J. Bauer, Director

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"And if the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed."

-John 8:36

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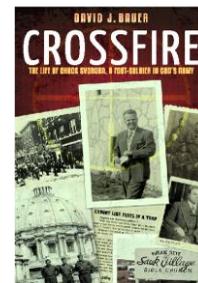
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Rev. David Bauer July Itinerary



- July 15 Roberts Road Bible Church, Justice, IL
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service;
6:00 p.m. Evening Service
- July 19 12:00 noon Pacific Garden Mission, Chicago
- July 22 9:30 a.m. Devon Church, Chicago, IL



From Cicero Gangland, to Enemy Gunfire, to Church Organization, to Arbitration in Churches... and beyond! The Chuck Svoboda Story & Bible Church History!

----- **CROSSFIRE** -----

Author David J. Bauer - Grace Acres Press
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Bible Related Ministries Leadership Conference

IMPROVING YOUR CHURCH HEALTH
Saturday, November 10, 2018

Key Note Speaker: **Dr. James Ford**

Radio Personality and Long-Time Pastor of
Christ Bible Church, Chicago

(Plus cutting-edge workshops dedicated toward enriching your church ministry)

Where? Grace Community Church
Lombard, IL

Mark this date on your calendar & join us!

BRM Field Report #7

Reflecting on FREEDOM this month, we are thankful to be a member of a church in America. We have real freedom to worship, can purchase a Bible at a local Wal-Mart or Sam's Club, lead a Bible study in our home, and share Christ freely with our neighbors and relatives.

This is not the case with much of the rest of the world, where folks must be vigilant at windows and doors, watching out for the police or arresting government officials. Leading a home Bible study can result in one doing jail time for years...or worse.

But the down side of the freedom we have is that folks in this country have a lot of time on their hands to get into mischief. Most of the church disputes we encounter are about physical matters in the building, who is in charge, uprisings against the leadership of the church, or just someone who injured our feelings. We can call our American brand of Christianity a religion whose priority is "trivia", where there is not much spiritual depth and opportunities are squandered in preference to gratification of self. Persecuted Christians from foreign shores look at us in real wonder... How are we using our freedoms?

While dealing with churches doing pastoral searches in various locals, we find it alarming how little practical preparation our Bible colleges and seminaries give to students majoring in 'pastoral studies.' Most of the young "potential candidates" we look at these days are sadly lacking in the practicum of the pastoral ministry. Where they attend school is very important doctrinally. But we believe it is equally important for them to get training under an older successful pastor-mentor figure.

Mary Waters, wife of our long time Associate, Rev. Dan Waters, left this earth and woke up in glory on the morning of June 12. Dan and Mary have been together for 47 years, engaged in the pastorate in Glenwood Bible Church, IL and Iron River Bible Church, MI. Pastor Dan and Mary have ministered with BRM for over 20 years and labored faithfully in the UP of Michigan for about 23 years

In His Service,

Rev. David J. Bauer -2 Timothy 1:9