

Why

"I Believe In Freedom"

July 3, 2016 Pastor Michael T. Sawicki

Message Notes: Aldersgate UMC



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We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. –That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed...

## A Free People's Suicide

1. Freedom is a Gift From God.

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

Genesis 3:2-3 (NIV)

So if the Son sets you free, you will be absolutely free. John 8:36 (GW)

2. Freedom is Corruptible.

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

...I want you to see clearly what is right and to stay innocent of any wrong. Romans 16:19 (NLT)

- Hubristic Confidence

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 1 Corinthians 10:12 (NIV)

The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but a person is tested by the praise they receive. Proverbs 27:21 (NIV)

- Historical Ignorance

These events happened as a warning to us, so that we would not crave evil things as they did or worship idols as some of them did. For the Scriptures say, "The people celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged themselves in pagan revelry."

1 Corinthians 10:6-7 (NLT)

But watch out! Be very careful never to forget what you have seen the Lord do for you. Do not let these things escape from your mind as long as you live! And be sure to pass them on to your children and grandchildren. Deuteronomy 4:9 (NLT)