

## ***The Cost of Freedom***

We are always grateful to God for the freedom we enjoy in this country. At this time of parades and fireworks and celebrations of Independence Day, we focus on the liberty we have at the great cost of those who fought for it over 200 years ago and continue to fight for it yet today. We continue to be blessed by their foresight, wisdom, sacrifice and dedication to the cause of liberty.

Similarly, when we think of freedom, we also think of the freedom we have in Jesus, who gave Himself at great cost for each one of us over 2000 years ago. He left His home in heaven for the struggles and sufferings of earth. His love for us and His desire to have us with Him eternally cost Him His life. We are blessed by God's foresight, wisdom, sacrifice and dedication to the cause of freedom. His sacrifice on the cross freed us from bondage to sin. We continue to be blessed as we honor Him, love Him, praise Him and serve Him every day.

***For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. I Peter 1:18-19***

***You were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.***  
I Corinthians 6:20

***But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. Romans 6:22***

***...  
because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2***

***To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen. Revelation 1:6***

Happy Independence Day!

-Ray Wallace