

In 1941, Franklin Roosevelt gave the State of the Union address calling for support of the Allied nations in World War II. In his speech, Roosevelt introduced **Four Freedoms**, which he felt all people are entitled: freedom of **speech**, freedom of **worship**, freedom from **want**, and freedom from **fear**.

I was introduced to these Four Freedoms by one of my favorite artist Norman Rockwell. Inspired by Roosevelt's speech, Rockwell painted and captured the essence of all four optimistic goals of freedom inspiring many and, at the same time, creating something to support the country's war effort. It was billed many times with the caption, “Ours to Fight For”.

Freedom of Speech

We take for granted our freedom to speak and give our opinions without fear of persecution.



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This freedom of speech allows us to freely share the gospel.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

7 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Freedom of Speech

This is our prayer and desire this year. **Acts 4:29-30 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”**

We don’t need to be afraid, but rather speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15), as Jesus reminded the Apostle Paul. **Acts 18:9 One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. (NIV)**

Take advantage of this Freedom, open your mouth, and share your story with others.

- A testimony, or your story, is something that isn’t easily refuted.

Romans 10:13-14 for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

Freedom from Want

Philippians 4:19 And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (NAS)

Psalms 37:25

I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread. (NKJ)

1 Timothy 6:6-11

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.



Freedom from Want
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Freedom from Fear
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Freedom From Fear

Psalms 91:1-16 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." **3** Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. **4** He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

5 You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, **6** nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

8 You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.

9 If you make the Most High your dwelling-- even the LORD, who is my refuge—

10 then no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent.

11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;

12 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

13 You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

14 "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. **15** He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. **16** With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Perfect Love Drives Out Fear

1 John 4:15-21 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. **But perfect love drives out fear**, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

2 Timothy 1:7

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (NKJ)

As Americans, we could not enjoy and be thankful for these Four Freedoms if it weren't for the sacrifice of many brave soldiers, both women and men.

As Christians, we could not enjoy and be thankful for our Freedoms if weren't for the work of Christ Jesus on the cross where he purchased our freedom. **True freedom only comes through Christ.**

John 8:32-36 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

33 They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" 34 Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. 35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (NIV)

Freedom of Worship

We saw in the story of Jesus healing the blind man that belief in Jesus lead to worship of him.

John 9:38 Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

All nations are called to come and worship the Lord and glorify His name but not all nations have the freedom to openly do that.

Psalms 86:9 All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.

- Currently, we are free to worship, pray, and gather in Jesus' name without fear of persecution from our government.

One day, everyone will be worshipping Christ Jesus.

Romans 14:11 ... "As surely as I live," says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.'

I look forward to worshipping Jesus on that day, but I want to worship Him now as well!

I want to worship Him today and take advantage of my freedom to do so.

Psalms 92:1-2 It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, 2 to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.



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