



Freedom

The Heart Of God
Limits To Freedom

Senior Teaching Pastor Jim Supp — Reston Bible Church — Sunday, July 5, 2026

“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

John Adams

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

John 8:31-32 ESV

**So if the Son sets you free, you will be free
indeed.**

John 8:36 ESV

“If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. You must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place to oblige it to control itself.”

James Madison, Federalist #51

“Political thinkers who assume leaders will act from pure virtue are engaging in a visionary fantasy.... Nations and politicians are driven by passions, interests and ambitions.”

Alexander Hamilton, Federalist #6

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Galatians 5:13-14 ESV

We Are To Limit Our Freedom Because

God commands it

Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

1 Corinthians 6:18 ESV

“Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

John 14:21 ESV

Constrain Our Tongues

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Ephesians 4:29 NIV

Constrain Our Behavior

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Ephesians 4:31 ESV

Constrain Our Minds

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Philippians 4:8 ESV

think about = ponder, reflect on

We Are To Limit Our Freedom Because

The discipline of self-denial is beneficial

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

1 Corinthians 9:25 NIV

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything.

1 Corinthians 6:12 ESV

“All things are lawful,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful,” but not all things build up.

1 Corinthians 10:23 ESV

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

Luke 9:23 ESV

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself...

Philippians 2:5-7 ESV

We Are To Limit Our Freedom Because

Sacrificing for others is Godly

**“Ask not what your
country can do for you
– ask what you can do
for your country.”**

John F. Kennedy



One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.

Romans 14:2-3 ESV

Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

1 Corinthians 8:13 ESV

...but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant...

Philippians 2:7 ESV

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13 ESV

We Are To Limit Our Freedom Because

- **God commands it**
- **The discipline of self-denial is beneficial**
- **Sacrificing for others is Godly**

Steward Your Freedoms Prayerfully

**Don't Judge Others For Their
Freedom Choices**

**Choose To Put Others Above
Your Freedoms**



FREEDOM

The Heart of God