

Monday Music ~ Do You Want to be Free? ~ “Redeemed” by Big Daddy Weave



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The prisoners received their pardons, and their prison doors swung open.

But they didn't leave.

Some hadn't been told they could.

Others were told, but they'd lived imprisoned so long, they refused to believe they could just walk away.

And so there they live, imprisoned still today even with the doors wide open.

This scene plays out every day across the world.

Every one of us who's placed our faith in Christ has received a full pardon for our sin.

We're redeemed.

Christ has opened our prison doors.

But if we're only redeemed, but not free, what kind of redemption is that?

Did Christ forgive us of our sins and save us for eternity, yet leave us in bondage to those sins and our past?

Did He not also set us free from anything that controls us?

Aren't we free from the shame and guilt of our failures, as well as the power of our addictions?

Absolutely!

Can't we walk away from the grip of regret, bitterness and despair?

Yes, instantly!

Could it be possible that Christ would give us eternal hope, but not daily hope?

No. Not possible at all.

*We know that **our old sinful selves** were **crucified with Christ** so that **sin might lose its power** in our lives.*

*We are **no longer slaves to sin**.*

*For when we **died with Christ** we were **set free from the power of sin**. (Romans 6:6-7)*

Just so we're clear, when someone is crucified, they die.

What can dead people do?

Nothing.

Sin loses all its power in a dead person.

Sin requires a live host. It has no power on its own. Who's ever heard of a dead person committing murder? (*We all know zombies aren't real, right? Thank goodness!*)

Since we're *crucified with Christ*, we're dead. Sin has lost its live host.

But then the Bible also says we've been *raised with Christ*. (*Colossians 3:1*)

Uh oh! The live host is back!

Can sin now return to feed on us?

*So you also should consider yourselves to be **dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus**. (Romans 6:11)*

Sure, we can choose to donate our *resurrected* bodies and brains to sin.

We can choose to remain in the prison cell with sin after Christ broke open our prison doors, but why would we? Because prison is so much fun?

Let's walk away.

We're not who we used to be.

We've been set free.

Let's stop fighting a fight that's already been won.

It is Finished. (John 19:30)

In the immortal words of Pumbaa from *The Lion King*:

You've got to put your behind in the past.

If we let our past only see our behinds, we're moving forward.

We can't let anything drag us back into our old prison cells.

Let's shake off those heavy chains.

Let's lift up our heads, wipe away every stain, and live in freedom forever.

We are redeemed.

Listen to Big Daddy Weave's song "Redeemed" and believe.

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Sharing is caring, so care away!

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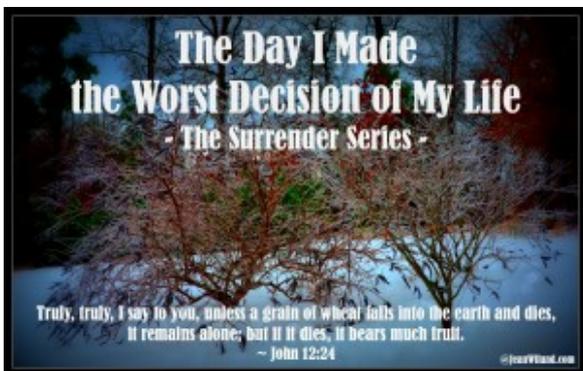
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