From Pastor's Desk...

## Glorious Freedom Through Christ by the Spirit

United States of America celebrates independence on July 4<sup>th</sup>. When it was declared in 1776, leaders had a dream to build this nation under the sovereign God. Several wars and much conflicts couldn't deviate from the affirmation on freedom for the people in various spheres of life. It really attracts people to migrate to this nation.

The Holy Spirit was present at the creation of the world as one of the agents in the origin of life itself (Gen 1:2). He is the power behind the re-birth of every Christian and the one who helps us to live the Christian life in fullness. The Spirit gives new life to all who believe in Christ, the moral law (10 commandments) points out sin and its wages as death but forgiveness comes only through the grace of Christ (Rom. 7:10-8:2).

Mosses and his veil (2Cor. 3:11-18) illustrates the fading of the old system and the veiling of the people's minds and understanding by their pride, hardness of heart and refusal to repent. The veil kept them from understanding the glorious Christ in the Scripture. Christ removes the veil and we receive eternal life. When we believe in Christ as the way, the truth and the life (Jn. 14:6), all the benefits of God's children will be ours. The truth will set us free (Jn. 8:31) from prejudiced mind of being slave to ceremonies and practices of a religion. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom (2 Cor. 3:17).

- We have freedom from sin and condemnation because we trust Jesus Christ.
- We have freedom to read, meditate, and interpret the Word of God.
- We have freedom to worship Holy God in Spirit and truth.
- We have freedom by anointing to set free those are oppressed.
- We have freedom to serve one another in love.
- We have freedom to live as servants of God.
- We have freedom to witness Jesus Christ.

God bless you.

In His glorious service,

Rev. K. P. Mathew (Senior Pastor, IPC Hebron, Los Angeles)

## Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty

Sis. Femila Biju.

We all desire liberty. People cry and fight for freedom and liberty worldwide. Major reason of all wars among nations is bondage. Here is the good news for those who are in bondage. The spirit of the Lord gives liberty.

When Paul and Silas were brutally striped and casted into a prison, their legs were fastened into stocks. They arms were tied up. There is no way for them to move. Their clothes were taken out and placed them in inner prison. All around them is nothing but darkness. The only part of their body able to function is their mouth. When they started opening their mouth and praising God, the Holy Spirit started moving in the inner prison. All their chains fell down and they became free.

The benefit of praising God in Spirit was not only to the men of God but also to other prisoners. They all enjoyed the liberty. When the spirit moves among us, it shakes the foundation of bondage and breaks the chain of bondage. It gives light to those who are in darkness. The prisoner who put them in darkness came inside and asked them light.

The spirit of the Lord took out the darkness of his heard and opened his eyes to see the marvelous light of liberty. What an amazing change! Spirit of the Lord has no boundaries. It reaches everywhere even to the inner rooms of prisons. We are in so many bondages in our heart. Those bondages can be in the family or in the work. It can be in the church or in the community. We pray for deliverance and limit our God. Don't limit our God.

Let the spirit of God flow over our bondages and makes us free. Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. (Gal 5:1). Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty