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## **Is Your Free Will Bondage?**

There are many who say choosing to live within the will of God, following His instructions, is bondage and something we are no longer to do. At the same time, the same people will be quick to agree that “*we need to decrease as He increases*” and that “*His will be done*”. They will agree that Jesus, his Hebrew name being Yeshua, is the example for all of us and take note how he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane when he prayed to the Father that not his will, but YHWH’s will be done.

Yet, even though they admit Yeshua chose to be in YHWH’s will, they will say we should not follow that example, or at least their understanding of that example. So the question remains, “*Is Your Free Will Bondage?*”

For some, their understanding of following YHWH’s will extends to accepting Yeshua as the Messiah and doing what they feel the Holy Spirit tells them to do or not do. This understanding is not necessarily wrong as much as it is incomplete.

Part of serving and loving our Creator is accepting Yeshua the Messiah, YHWH’s plan for our salvation. It is also listening to the Holy Spirit sent to us as the comforter and teacher guiding us into all truth. But the question then, is what is “truth” if the Holy Spirit is to lead us into all of it?

### **Psalm 119:142 (ESV)**

*Your righteousness is righteous forever,  
and your law (Torah) is true.*

The Torah is truth. The Holy Spirit should be leading us, or pointing us to His Torah, the perfect instructions from our Creator detailing how He wants his people to live. His Torah is the baseline instructions for those who want to be in His will.

YHWH made it quite clear His people are to be set apart, to live a different life than the rest of the world. We live differently and set apart when we choose to follow Him and to live in His ways.

Messiah reiterated for us that we are to love the Creator, it is the greatest commandment. But why do we love him? It’s because he first loved us according 1 John 4:19. He demonstrated his love for us by sending His son, the Messiah, for our salvation.

### **John 3:16-17 (ESV)**

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

For more on John 3:16-17, please see our teaching titled, “[Believing](#)”.

He also showed us His love by giving us the rules, or laws, that He wants His set apart people to live by. Following those instructions will make his people wise before those of the world, the Gentiles.

### **Deuteronomy 4:5-8**

See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord (YHWH) my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. **Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’** For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord (YHWH) our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

That’s how YHWH showed His love for us, but then how do we show our love for Him? Well, the same way that we show anyone that we love them, through our actions. Actions speak louder than words; even to our Creator.

### **1 John 5:1-5 (ESV)**

Everyone who believes that Jesus (Yeshua) is the Christ (Messiah) has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. **For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.** For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus (Yeshua) is the Son of God?

What is keeping His commandments? It’s doing them, guarding them, in a word, obeying them.

And what is obedience but the giving up of our own free will to follow the will of one greater than us? If we want to show our Creator we love Him; if we want to claim to be His children, His bride, then we need to submit our will to His.

Exercising our free will to put ourselves under the Creator’s will shows who we feel is the authority in our lives. It is also an expression of love. We are choosing to follow YHWH’s leadership and instruction.

Choosing to obey the Creator’s will shows Him that we trust His direction; that we desire Him in our lives and not ourselves. We are showing the Creator that we love Him so much that we are willing to give up our own free will to choose His.

What is His will but for us to love Him, by being obedient to Him and keeping His commandments. Combine those actions with our faith in Messiah and we show our complete love for Him.

Giving up our free will to follow the Creator is not bondage, it's love.

What is the opposite of showing love? Hate. Do you hate your Creator?

What's the alternative to choosing to live within YHWH's will? It's choosing our own will, making ourselves as "God" and rejecting the instruction of the Creator. Are you the Most High?

Not choosing the Most High is choosing destruction; choosing Him is choosing life.

Perhaps Joshua illustrated best the concept of giving up his free will when he said this:

**Joshua 24:15 (ESV)**

**And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord (YHWH), choose this day whom you will serve, ...But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (YHWH)."**

*We hope that this teaching has blessed you.*

*Remember, continue to test everything.*

*Shalom!*

*For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at [www.testeverything.net](http://www.testeverything.net)*

**Shalom, and may YHWH bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.**

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