

## **Proclaiming Freedom Jeremiah 34:12-17**

### **Freedom is part of God's Nature**

*“This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: I made a covenant with your ancestors when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the place of slavery, saying.” (Jeremiah 34:13, HCSB)*

*“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.” (2 Corinthians 3:17, HCSB)*

### **Freedom should be a characteristic of God's people**

*“At the end of seven years, each of you must free his Hebrew brother who sold himself to you. He may serve you six years, but then you must send him out free from you. But your ancestors did not obey Me or pay any attention.” (Jeremiah 34:14, HCSB)*

*“You are to consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim freedom in the land for all its inhabitants. It will be your Jubilee, when each of you is to return to his property and each of you to his clan.” (Leviticus 25:10, HCSB)*

*“Do not take revenge or bear a grudge against members of your community, but love your neighbor as yourself; I am Yahweh.” (Leviticus 19:18, HCSB)*

*“A poor man is hated even by his neighbor, but there are many who love the rich.” (Proverbs 14:20, HCSB)*

### **We should be in the business of “setting people free.”**

*“Today you repented and did what pleased Me, each of you proclaiming freedom for his neighbor. You made a covenant before Me at the temple called by My name.” (Jeremiah 34:15, HCSB)*

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF FREEDOM**

*The Bible warns us that we should not use our liberty to sin.*

*“As God's slaves, live as free people, but don't use your freedom as a way to conceal evil.” (1 Peter 2:16, HCSB)*

*We should not use our liberty to hurt other people in the church.*

*“For you were called to be free, brothers; only don't use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but serve one another through love.” (Galatians 5:13, HCSB)*

*We should not use our liberty to prevent the Gospel from doing its life-changing work.*

*“But be careful that this right of yours in no way becomes a stumbling block to the weak.” (1 Corinthians 8:9, HCSB)*