

MY FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE

Dear Jim Logan,

I say "dear" with more feeling than just the standard letter greeting. Even though our personal meetings were very brief and then not much longer, I am closer to you than most other people I know. Well I guess I am close to you because God used you to release me from my bondage to sin.

I hope this is a command theme in the letters that you receive; that is, continued celebration in the Lord for His granting us victory over sin in our lives. But before I continue, I will back up and maybe remind you who I am. My wife spoke with you on the phone and arranged a meeting between you and I at the A.T.I.A. training seminar in Knoxville this past July. I couldn't help crying in despair and hope at the same time. Later in the week, you were God's divine instrument in opening my eyes to the roots of my bondage and showing me that I am not a slave to sin but a slave a slave to God. From that afternoon on up to now I clearly see when I am presented a choice to sin and that I have the grace and privilege from God to choose to reject satan's lies and to live according to the truth. I will admit, sometimes I toy with the temptation longer than I should - but praise God - by His grace I have not fallen into my old sexual addiction, since we met together.

I guess it must be obvious to you, but it is amazing for me to see that when the "strong man" (me) is released he (I) can responsibly protect his goods! My wife still marvels over the reduction in attacks upon her! Our younger son never wanted to pray out loud before. Since my freedom, he always **wants** to pray - in the morning, at meals, at night, in the bed and even spontaneously! The attitudes of our children have been dramatically changed from often whining and selfishness to now more often loving each other, without complaining, and giving.

Until a few weeks ago, I would have to battle (mostly by ignoring) satan's attacks when he would remind me that I enjoyed my sin and still would (physically) if I would allow myself the opportunity. But then God revealed to me that as His child as a new man "my" desires and likes cannot ever possibly include sin. So obviously (now) even those desires (or thoughts of desires or memories) are **not mine** but from **satan**! Now it is even easier to partake of the manifold grace of God!

In our meeting I briefly mentioned that sexual bondage was widespread in my family. I have since spoken to my father and brothers of my new freedom (I believe they are all Christian). My pleas and invitations seem to go right past my father without his grasping the least bit of what I am hinting at. One brother (who later I found out was committing the same self-defilements that I was),

heard what I was saying but sloughed it off with the attitude that he didn't need help. The other brother (who has been through a lot of counseling groups and has a lot of similar ideas - but different words) is incredulous that I have been able to stop so cold, so fast, and so victoriously (I tell him it's not me and my actions but the free grace of God to every believer). Oh how I would like to be used in their lives like you were used in mine! To be God's instrument of light as it were to pluck off their scales (or to be present when they fall off at least) so that they might see!

I thank you again for allowing God to work through you in my life and my family.