

Unmasked Faces

Untamed, uncontainable, unstoppable Spirit.

Will not stay in the boxes we want him to, but blows like a mighty wind,

He will not stay in the confines we want him to, but he flows like a raging river.

He cannot be tamed no matter how much we try, he cannot be contained by the limitations we put on him, he cannot be stopped by the obstacles we construct. He is the Untamed, uncontained, unstoppable Spirit.

Yet, even though he could, he will not force himself on us.

Scripture

2 cor. 3.7-18

7 Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, transitory though it was, 8 will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? 9 If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! 10 For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. 11 And if what was transitory came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!

12 Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. 13 We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. 14 But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. 15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. 16 But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate (reflect) the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Freedom and Ever-increasing glory

If it is true that where the Spirit of the Lord, there is freedom, and if we have the Spirit of the Lord, it seems only logical to conclude that we have freedom

Yet so many of us are bound, addicted, trapped.

ADDICTIONS/BONDAGES

There are too many Christians who do not know freedom.

It doesn't mean that if you are bound by something, that the Spirit has left you.

It just means that we are birds that have lived in our cages so long, that we fail to live in the reality that the door is open.

Even if you don't live in the fullest freedom Christ wants for you, you can know some freedom. In fact, I think that this freedom is really what this passage is talking about.

THE FREEDOM OF AN UNVEILED/UNMASKED FACE

Back to Scripture

Not just a freedom to enjoy, but a call to live out.

Ch. 4

Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

What Ministry? – The ministry of reflecting the glory of God with an unveiled face.

The next time you go to the store and see all the masks, remember that we are to reflect the God's glory with unveiled faces.

What does living with an unveiled face mean? What does this life and ministry look like?

We are honest about our stuff.

Reuschling: I've got stuff, you've got stuff, all God's children got stuff.

Be patient with yourself but don't give yourself a pass, or live resigned to your bondage.

WE OWN OUR STUFF BUT DON'T EXCUSE IT.

We never stop being hungry for freedom.

We form relationships that allow us to be open, vulnerable, transparent, and accountable.

Walk in the freedom you have and the amount of glory you have to reflect.

Ever-increasing glory.

Maybe the only freedom you have is to live with an unveiled face. So do it!

Maybe you don't have much glory to reflect

(Picasso)

But we are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory

Be a Spirit chaser. God is moved by those who pursue him.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness...

⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

Be patient with each other

Sadly it is likely that some of us will never experience the full freedom that could be ours on this side of the grave.

Ruth Bell Graham

End of Construction. Thank you for your patience.

Living in Hope

Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.

I want us to start walking in new levels of his freedom.

Freedom to worship unreservedly, to serve sacrificially, to believe for the unimaginable.

I want to see those who are addicted, delivered, those in bondage set free, those in chains released.

Not by anything we do, but by the untamed, uncontrolled, unstoppable Spirit of God.

The more you and I live in this WILD SPIRIT, the more freedom we will know until that day when we will be free. We will run, skip, leap, and dance in a release that we have never known.

Until that day live with your face unmasked.