

RUSSELL SANDERS
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INDEPENDENCE DAY

Today, July 4, 2020, our nation celebrates Independence Day. It is the day our founding fathers signed a document declaring the colonies would no longer be subservient to the oppressive lords of the British empire or its' despotic King George.

Did that freedom take place immediately? No. Did it come easily? No. It took a long hard-fought path. After five years of fighting, we finally were victorious on the battlefield in 1781. However, it still took two more years (seven in all) before our independence was formally cemented in 1783.

We had been subjected to more than one hundred years of tyranny driven by the greed for money and power by the leaders of Britain. They seemed to regard us as their vassals, servants who owed allegiance to them. We were to support their military, their civil rulers, and give them (in taxes) however much they demanded of whatever we produced in goods and money. It was very oppressive, just a notch or two above slave servitude.

In the period of 1770-1775 small militia groups in various colonies began to form in opposition to England's abuses which were many, which lead to the unified effort in 1776 with the formation of our continental army and our Declaration of Independence.

Just as we, as a nation, had been under the dominion of a harsh ruler, so also was Adam's race under the dominion of an even greater harshness. Satan is an evil ruler. Just as the Continental Army had to undergo tough battles under General George Washington, so also did Jesus have to undergo tough opposition leading His "army" of disciples for our independence (freedom) from the subservience of the oppression and bondage of sin and its' "king of the earth," Satan.

We owe our independence to the Son of Man, Jesus. Although so many choose to remain vassals of Satan, independence is freely available to all who would believe upon Jesus and call on His name. John 8:36 says, ***"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."***

It is free. It only costs your own life: a life to love Him, with His life within you; you are free to do His will, free to serve Him; free from the penalty of eternal death; free to choose to die for your faith on Him; free to take up your cross and follow Him.

All the above is your free choice. With Satan you have no free choice. You are freely independent to choose whom you will serve.