

## **Insurmountable Blessings**

We are blessed to live in a society where religious freedom exists. This religious freedom, however, has led some to believe that God also allows religious freedom. We need to understand that even though the Constitution allows freedom in matters of religion, the Lord does not.

When Jehovah revealed his statutes unto the children of Israel, he was very specific concerning worship, saying, “Ye shall make you no idols, neither shall ye rear you up a graven image, or a pillar, neither shall ye place any figured stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am Jehovah your God” (Lev. 26:1).

When the apostle of Jesus Christ, Paul of Tarsus, was in the city of Athens he said to the Athenians, “Ye men of Athens, in all things, I perceive that ye are very religious. For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. What therefore ye worship in ignorance, this I set forth unto you (Acts 17:22-23).

When the apostle Paul spoke of his own Jewish brethren, he said, “I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God” (Rom. 10:2-3).

These passages inform us that the insurmountable blessings we have in Christ, i.e., “being made free from sin and become servants to God” (Rom. 6:22), and in our nation must be approached from a standpoint of understanding that the God we serve requires that we turn “unto God from idols, to serve a living and true God” (1 Thess. 1:9), and do so from a standpoint of knowledge and not only zeal.

Is your faith and hope built upon a knowledge of God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, “who his own self bare our sins in his body upon the tree, that we, having died unto sins, might live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed” (1 Pet. 2:24)?

Ross Triplett, Sr. 05.15.22