

## Independence and What It Means

**Introduction:** We just celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the signing of The Declaration of Independence. This is an amazing document because it was the start of a new independent nation. Today we look to the Cross of Christ and His words for our independence and what it means to us.

### I) Independence From

#### A) \_\_\_\_\_, servitude, tyranny

1. The Declaration of Independence was created because of the unfair treatment.
2. Mankind was in bondage to sin and its consequences.
  - a. Sin can \_\_\_\_\_ us, **1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Romans 1:28- 32**
3. Sin will \_\_\_\_\_ us.

#### B) To desire independence there must be the realization of \_\_\_\_\_ for it.

1. In the case of England there were actions which showed oppression.
2. There were those in the time of Jesus who did not see the need for independence from bondage. **John 8:34, Romans 6:19.**

#### C) To receive independence

1. \_\_\_\_\_ plus \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What does it take to be free from sin? **Colossians 1:19-20, Matthew 16:24.**

### II) Independence Presents

#### A) To do either good or bad

1. The fact is the throwing off of tyranny of England did not mean there would be freedom.
2. In Christ we have independence from sin but we can elect to serve Him or remain sin. **Romans 6:16-18**

#### B) To elect to \_\_\_\_\_

1. Must refrain from sin, **1 John 1:3-6**
2. To do \_\_\_\_\_. Ephesians 2:10

### III) Independence Means

#### A) The Signers of Declaration realized they would be held accountable.

1. We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately.
2. It is a scary thing to think of what you did years ago will come back to haunt you.

#### B) We are \_\_\_\_\_ **Matthew 12:36, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Revelation 20:12**

1. Our example. How we behave towards others.
2. With God there is perfect memory, He won't just forget. But there is forgiveness that is complete. Romans 4:7

**Conclusion:** Independence came at a price in the American Revolution, 6,800 men. Our Independence from sin, the blood of Christ. To keep have it one must come to Christ and live faithfully to His word.