

Published based on [Final Freedom from Sin - sermon outline](#)

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The following sermon outline is a portion of a larger sermon by the well known and loved Puritan preacher, Thomas Watson. It is an excerpt out his sermon entitled, The Death of the Righteous.



Final Freedom from Sin (a retitled excerpt)

by Thomas Watson (Taken from sermon, The Death of the Righteous)

The saints, at death, have great immunities and freedoms. An apprentice, when he has served his time, is made free. Just so, when the saints have finished their time of living, they are made free! They are not made free until death.

At death they are freed from a body of SIN.

There are in the best believers, the remnants of sin—some remainders and relics of corruption. "O wretched man who I am! who shall deliver me from this body of death?" By the body of death is meant the mass and lump of sin. It may well be called a body—for its weightiness; and a body of death for its harmfulness.

1. Sin weighs us down.

Sin hinders us from doing good. Like a bird that would be flying up—but has a chain tied to its legs to hinder it—a Christian would be flying up to heaven with the wings of desire—but sin hinders him! He is like a ship under sail, and at anchor! Grace would sail forward—but sin is the anchor that holds it back!

2. Sin is more active in its sphere, than grace.

How stirring was lust in David, when his grace lay dormant!

3. Sin sometimes gets the mastery, and leads a saint captive.

"For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing." Rom 7:19. Paul was like a man carried down the stream, and could not bear up against it. How often is a child of God overpowered with pride and passion! Therefore Paul calls sin, "a law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members." Rom 7:23. Sin binds as a law; it has a kind of jurisdiction over the soul, as Caesar had over the senate.

4. Sin defiles the soul.

Like a stain to beauty—sin turns the soul's azure brightness into darkness.

5. Sin debilitates us, disarms us of our strength.

"I am this day weak, though anointed king." Though a saint is crowned with grace, and anointed a spiritual king—he is weak.

6. Sin is ever restless.

"The flesh lusts against the spirit." Gal 5:17. Sin is an inmate that is always quarreling—it will never be quiet.

7. Sin adheres to us, we cannot get rid of it.

It may be compared to a wild fig-tree growing on a wall, the roots of which are pulled up—but some fibers of it are left in the joints of the stone-work, which cannot be gotten out.

8. Sin mingles with our duties and graces.

It makes a child of God weary of his life, and makes him water his couch with his tears—to think that sin is so strong an inhabitant, and that he often offends the God he loves. This made Paul cry out, Miser ego homo! "Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin?" Romans 7:24. He did not cry out because of his affliction, or his prison-chains—but for the body of sin.

Now a believer at death is freed from sin, he is not taken away in his sins—but from his sins. He shall never again have a vain, proud thought! He shall never again grieve the Spirit of God! Sin brought death into the world—and death shall carry sin out of the world. The Persians had a certain day in the year in which they killed all serpents and venomous creatures; such a day will the day of death be to a believer. Death will destroy all his sins, which, like so many serpents, have stung him. Death smites a believer as the angel did Peter—and made his chains fall off. Acts 12:7. Believers at death are made perfect in holiness. "The spirits of just men made perfect." At death the souls of believers recover their virgin purity. Oh! what a blessed privilege is this, to be without spot or wrinkle; to be purer than the sunbeams; to be as free from sin as the angels! This makes a believer desirous to have his passport, and to be gone from his sin! He would gladly live in that pure air, where no black vapors of sin arise!

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