

QA: What Was the Free Speech SCOTUS Ruling on 6/30/2023? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: What was the issue about 'free speech' the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruled on June 30?

ANSWER: To summarize, website designer Lorie Smith, refused to create a website for an LGBT (homosexual) customer because it violated her (Lorie's) religious convictions. SCOTUS ruled in her favor. It has protected personal religious belief over business concerns!

1. **Free Speech Is Not A License** Not all speech has a moral right to be offered. Just because we can, doesn't mean we should.

LORD, how long will the wicked, How long will the wicked triumph? They utter speech, and speak insolent things; All the workers of iniquity boast in themselves. (**Psalm 94:3-4**)

Wicked censorship is forced upon people, but Christians are considerate.

Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one. (**Colossians 4:6**)

Christians will "speak freely" about Jesus Christ, as Paul did (Acts 26:24-28), because Christians know "since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech—" (2 Corinthians 3:12). Christians are to...

Put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. (**Colossians 3:8**)

2. **Freedom To Obey Christ** There is no such thing as complete freedom. The American Revolution cast off abusive law for the freedom to establish our own law. Since sin is universal, Jesus' Gospel invites all everywhere to cast off their shackles of sin for the freedom to serve under Jesus' Law.

Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. (**Romans 6:16-18**)

No one can be freed from sins to do as they please. Liberty is not license or lawlessness! Christians must "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them." (Ephesians 5:11)

At least for now, SCOTUS has protected this principle for Christians. Hallelujah!

—— jtpll, July 2, 2023