Soul Freedom: A Quiet Proposal for Making the World Safer for Diversity

Christians have a matchless record in pioneering and defending freedom of conscience and religious liberty. Today, however, when violations of both rights are widespread across the entire world, many Western Christians have become part of the problem rather than part of the answer. On the one hand, they are fighting for their rights in ways that are counter-productive. On the other, they are doing so in ways that are sub-Christian and even anti-Christian. This session will set out the global problem and possible solutions, and argue for a Christian approach that is wiser, more faithful, and more effective at once.

Os Guinness is an author and social critic. He was educated in England, receiving his undergraduate degree from the University of London and a DPhil from Oriel College, Oxford. He was a Guest Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Studies and a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution. From 1986-1989 he was the Executive Director of the Williamsburg Charter Foundation, one of the drafters of the Williamsburg Charter. He is the founder and was the Senior Fellow of the Trinity Forum and most recently was Senior Fellow of the East West Institute in New York. Some of his influential books include *The Dust of Death; In Two Minds; The Gravedigger File; The American Hour; Dining with the Devil: The Megachurch Movement Flirts with Modernity; Fit Bodies, Fat Minds: Why Evangelicals Don't Think; The Call; and Time for Truth: Living Free in a World of Lies.*

Introduction

- 1. Why religious liberty is crucial for everyone
 - A. 1st Liberty
 - B. Source of civil society
 - C. Key to social harmony
- 2. Common weaknesses in responses so far
 - A. Neglect of 'habits'
 - B. Neglect of common good
 - C. Fighting negative with negative

- 3. Options for the public square
 - A. Sacred
 - B. Naked
 - C. Civil
- 4. Misunderstandings of the Civil Public Square
 - A. Niceness
 - B. Interfaith unity
 - C. False tolerance
- 5. Requirements for a successful restoration
 - A. Declaration
 - B. Implementation
 - C. Education

AFTERNOON 10/Day 3/Os Guinness / Soul Freedom

Conclusion