**(10:5) “Die Gedanken Sind Frei”**

“Die Gedanken Sind Frei” is a German song of protest that goes back at least to the Peasant Wars (1524-1525) of the 16th century. They were probably the largest popular uprising in Europe prior to the French Revolution. “Die Gedanken Sind Frei” was later an anthem of freedom fighters during the 1848 revolution in Germany and was sung as part of the resistance to the Nazi Third Reich in the 1930s. There are different versions, as there are with any folk song that has been part of so many struggles. This is the version Pete Seeger recorded on the 1966 album *Dangerous Songs* (Columbia Records).

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| Die Gedanken sind frei  My thoughts freely flower,  Die Gedanken sind frei  My thoughts give me power.  No scholar can map them,  No hunter can trap them,  No man can deny:  Die Gedanken sind frei!  No man can deny:  Die Gedanken sind frei!  I think as I please  And this gives me pleasure,  My conscience decrees,  This right I must treasure;  My thoughts will not cater | To duke or dictator,  No man can deny--  Die Gedanken sind frei!  No man can deny--  Die Gedanken sind frei!  And should tyrants take me  And throw me in prison  My thoughts will burst free,  Like blossoms in season.  Foundations will crumble,  And structure will tumble,  And free men will cry:  Die Gedanken sind frei!  And free men will cry:  Die Gedanken sind frei! |