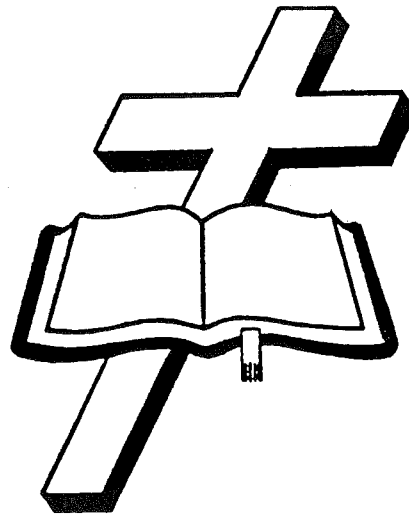


3 WORDS OF POWER

(How The Year Of Jubilee Has Been Fulfilled By Jesus)
Isaiah 61:1-11



THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

- ◆ Beauty For Ashes
- ◆ Joy For Mourning
- ◆ Praise For Heaviness

“The Lord will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all nations”
(Isaiah 61:11)

Bill Kirk

“3 WORDS OF POWER”

Text: Isaiah 61:1-11

Subject: How Jesus Has Fulfilled The Year Of Jubilee For Us All

Introduction

1. Jesus opened His public ministry in Nazareth by quoting from this chapter (In Luke 4:16-19)
2. Isaiah 61 reveals the glorious results of the coming of Jesus.
3. We have an awesome picture here of the ministry of Jesus today:
 - ◆ (Vs. 1-3) reveal the purpose for which the Messiah has been appointed. (Redemption)
 - ◆ (Vs. 4-9) reveal the effects of this redemption to those who receive it. (Restoration)
 - ◆ (Vs. 10&11) reveal the response in the heart of those who are restored. (Rejoicing)

Question: How can we be guaranteed that Jesus can do what this Scripture says He can do? (Because Jesus said...)

Answer: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me”. (v. 1)

(In Other Words)

- ◆ Jesus was publicly consecrated to His work when the Holy Spirit descended upon Him at His water baptism. (Matthew 3:16)
- ◆ Jesus has also been imparted with the Spirit of God without measure:
“...For God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him” (John 3:34)

(Which Means:)

- ◆ No devils, demons, hell (or anyone) can prevent Jesus from touching people today.
- ◆ The wind of the Holy Spirit blows where He will and no one can stop it. (John 3:8)

3 Words Of Power

(That minister to every one of us)

I. The Power Of “Redemption” (Vs. 1&2)

“The Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek, to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound” (v.1)

(How Does Jesus Redeem Us?)

#1. Jesus ministers grace to the meek:

(The word “meek” means someone who...)

- ◆ ...is afflicted in some way
- ◆ ...is distressed for some reason
- ◆ ...is patient in the reception of injury (instead of acting out with revenge)

Fact: The word for “meek” describes someone who has been injured or betrayed, but refuses to retaliate.

Fact: Israel had been afflicted by captivity in Babylon.

Fact: God promises to Israel and you and me here:

- ◆ That to the extent we chose to forgive and not retaliate when injured, to that same extent we will receive grace to be healed. (Repeat)

(In Other Words)

- ◆ Meekness opens the door to our hearts so that hurts can be healed by the power of God’s grace.

#2. **Jesus binds up the broken-hearted:**

(The "broken-hearted" here refers to those who are deeply hurting because of something)

- ◆ It could be over their sin
- ◆ It could be over some disappointment
- ◆ It could be over loss of some kind
- ◆ It could be over an unfulfilled expectation

Fact: The meaning here is that Jesus ministers now to apply the balm of comfort and consolation to those in need.

"Who comforts us in all our tribulation" (II Corinthians 1:4)

#3. **Jesus brings liberty to captives:**

- ◆ As the exiles in Babylon were set free after 70 years, (so Jesus accomplishes the same deliverance today) (**In Other Words**)
- ◆ Jesus redeems us from sin (or delivers us who are held captivity to the servitude of sins dominion).
- ◆ Jesus releases anyone under the slavery of sin, the flesh, the world, bad habits, etc.

#4. **Jesus opens prison doors:**

- ◆ This is reference to the release of those confined in Babylon.
- ◆ The idea is, that Jesus would affect the same release for those in sin. (He would "Throw open the prison doors of sin" and allow us to go free).
- ◆ This is a picture of a fresh new beginning for all who walk out of prison.

#5. **Jesus proclaims the acceptable year of the Lord**

(This is reference to the "Year of Jubilee" in Leviticus 25:1-17)

- ◆ Every seven years the Jews were to observe a Sabbatical Year (to allow the land to rest)
- ◆ After seven sabbaticals (or 49 years) Israel was to proclaim the fiftieth year as the "Year of Jubilee".
- ◆ The purpose of this "Year of Jubilee" was to prevent the oppression of the poor and to guard against the miserly accumulations of the rich. (It was God's way to retain equity in the society and preserve a balance among the tribes).

(3 Things Took Place)

#1. All debts were canceled and forgiven.

#2. All slaves that had sold themselves to liquidate their debts were freed.

#3. All property and possessions that had been taken as collateral was returned to its original owner.

(Jesus Has Done The Same Thing)

- ◆ Jesus has paid our spiritual debt in full.
- ◆ Jesus had freed us from the slavery of sin.
- ◆ Jesus now comforts all who mourn over past sin (and gives them a fresh new beginning).

II. The Power Of Restoration

"To give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness.

Fact: "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion" (v. 3) refers to all who are connected with the Lord's church.

(Jesus Restores 3 Ways Here)

#1. **Beauty for ashes** (Restored character)

- ◆ It was common for orientals to cast dust upon their heads as an expression of grief.
- ◆ It was easy for Israel to grieve over their past sin. (**But now in Jesus**)

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- ◆ We no longer stand before God with stains of sin.
- ◆ We no longer are possessed with grief over sin.
- ◆ We've been transformed because the beauty of His righteousness has replaced our ashes. (what we used to be)

#2. Oil of joy for mourning

- ◆ Oil was used as a symbol (or expression) of joy and gladness.

(It Means Now In Jesus)

- ◆ Our countenance has changed from sorrow to joy.
- ◆ Joy is that condition of heart because of God's presence in my life.
- ◆ Joy is the fruit of God's Spirit because of a faith rooted in God and obedience as a lifestyle.
- ◆ Joy is that quality within which enables me to lift the spirit of those around me.

#3. Praise for heaviness of spirit (Restores expression)

- ◆ The word "Heaviness" in (v.3) means: Burdened, Oppressed, Fainthearted, Feeble
- ◆ It is a word used to describe a weak and flickering lamp about to go out.

(It Means That Jesus)

- ◆ Overcomes the lies of discouragement that satan uses to bring heaviness upon you.

Discouragement is: A lie of the devil to blind you in the present of what God is going to do in the future!

The Results Of Being Restored?

"...That we might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified" (v.30)

Trees And Planting Mean:

- #1. You will become vigorous and strong.
- #2. You will become rooted and usable.
- #3. You will become stable and unshaken.

So Much So That

"You will build the old waste places, raise up the former desolations and repair the waste cities" (v.4)

(Which Means)

- ◆ God's people will be used to repair and restore old ruins to a new beauty.
- ◆ As the land was desolated by the Chaldeans for 70 years (and restored afterward) So Jesus will do the same through His dedicated people!!!

Who Me?

"You shall be named the priests of the Lord" (V. 6)

Fact: Under the Old Testament law, the priesthood was limited to one family of one tribe.

Fact: Everyone else had privileges inferior and outside the place of worship.

(But Not Now In Jesus)

- ◆ Under the Messiah (or New Covenant), the priestly ministry of Jesus is open to all.
- ◆ Everyone can now draw nigh and come close to Jesus.
- ◆ Everyone now has access to the throne of grace.

- ◆ Everyone is now invited to union and communion.

III. The Power Of "Rejoicing"

"For your shame you shall have double, and for confusion you shall rejoice; everlasting joy shall be unto you". (v. 7)

Fact: Here we have the by-product of being redeemed and restored.

Fact: Here we find cause to rejoice without end.

(In Fact)

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God, for He has covered me with the robe of righteousness" (v. 10)

(3 Causes Of Joy)

#1. We are Rewarded:

"For your shame you shall have double" (v. 7)

- ◆ God says; because you persevered in double trouble (the 70 years in captivity), you will now receive a double reward (or inheritance from God). Your labor, sacrifice, tears, service, giving, they are not in vain.

#2. We are Remembered:

"I will make an everlasting covenant with you" (v. 8) (**which means**)

- ◆ It is impossible for God to forget those who belong to (and serve) Him.

#3. We are Robed:

"He has covered me with the robe of righteousness" (v. 10)

- ◆ The word "Robe" means "Mantle" (which was a large loose garment thrown over the dress for protection).

(So The Righteousness Of Jesus)

- ◆ Protects us from the accuser of our soul.
- ◆ Prohibits us from all condemnation.
- ◆ Preserves us before a Holy God.

(The End Result?)

"The garden will grow and spring forth" (v. 11)

(or)

- ◆ Holiness and righteousness will result in evangelism.
- ◆ Light in the church will attract those outside.
- ◆ Seed sown will sprout up and grow.

"God will cause it" (v.11) and the devil is useless to stop it!!!

AMEN!

Bill Kirk, Pastor