JESUS IS MY JUBILEE

Jesus is my liberation from sin, the restoration of my divine inheritance, and the rest for my soul.

KEY POINTS

- The Book of Leviticus is the third of five books of the Hebrew Law given to Moses.
- The setting of the book takes place at Mount Sinai, after the children of Israel have been delivered from Egypt. God has given Moses the 10 commandments and instructions on setting up the tabernacle, establishing the priesthood, building the Ark of the Covenant and for implementing the Sabbath day.
- A key theme of the book of Leviticus is the establishment of God's holiness, righteousness and justice. When people encounter these aspects of God's character, it requires a response (Exodus 3:2-5).
- It was God's intention to dwell among the Children of Israel, and this was symbolized by the tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant, which represented His presence.
- If God was going to dwell among the Children of Israel, it was imperative that they understand how to respond to His holy characteristics.
- The guiding principle supporting the laws, rituals and practices contained in the Book of Leviticus is God's holiness, righteousness and justice. The Children of Israel were to interact with God on the basis of His holiness and with each other in a fair way on the principle of His righteousness and justice.
- The Year of Jubilee came after seven Sabbath years, which is 49 years. Then on the 50th year a year of Jubilee was to be declared. Therefore, the year of Jubilee was every 50 years.
- If an Israelite sold themselves into slavery to another Israelite because of economic hardship, they were to be free to return home in the Year of Jubilee.
- It is in the year of Jubilee that all land that an Israelite sold was to be returned back to him.
- During the year of Jubilee, the Israelites were not to plant or farm the land. They were to live off the harvest of the year preceding the Sabbath year. It was to be a type of rest where God would provide for their needs.
- In many ways, the experiences of the Children of Israel in the Old Testament are symbols and metaphors of how God in the person of Jesus Christ desires to engage with us.
- What does the practice of the year of Jubilee mean for us today? It foreshadows the revelation that Jesus is our Jubilee.
- Jesus is the source of our freedom, the restoration of things that we have lost and the supplier of our rest.
- The Bible makes it clear that when we yield ourselves to sin, we become the servant of sin (Romans 6:20-21).

KEY SCRIPTURES:

Leviticus 25:1-13 NIV

- It is for this reason we are thankful: Jesus Christ died on the cross and rose from the dead the third day to free us from the power of sin (Romans 8:1-3).
- When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they sold the dominion God had given to them. They sold the open and free access they had to the presence of God.
- In the same way, when we choose to continuously sin, we are selling the divine dominion God intended for our lives. We are selling God's divinely appointed destiny for our lives.
- Jesus asked the following question in Mark 8:37 (NKJV): "What will a man give in exchange for his soul?"
- When Jesus liberated the world from the power of sin, He restored to us everything that we sold because of sin and disobedience.
- The Year of Jubilee was a year of rest, and God provided for the needs of the children of Israel during this period of rest.
- The children of Israel experienced a physical rest. Jesus not only provides rest for our souls (Matthew 11:28), He also provides for all of our physical needs (Philippians 4:19).
- Unlike the Children of Israel, we do not have to wait 50 years to experience a Jubilee.
- Jesus is our Jubilee. He is our liberation from sin, the restoration of our divine inheritance, and the rest for our souls (Luke 4:18-21).

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. In your opinion, how are Christians today similar to the Children of Israel?
2. Why do you believe God implemented the practice of the year of Jubilee in the Old Testament?
3. What does Christian liberty mean to you? What does it mean to be free from sin?
4. Explain Matthew 11:28-29 in your own words.
5. In what way(s) is the Spirit of God similar to the practice of the year of Jubilee?

Prayer Time

Lord, please help me to accept Your liberty and to live confidently in Your restoration, peace and provision for my life. Amen.

L.G. ice-Breaker: What feeling did you experience when you managed to pay off a debt? Did you celebrate, how?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

(Reminds me/Confirms) (New idea) (Think about)

(Do this) (Speaks to my heart) (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS