

JESUS THE RESTORER

September 2, 2012

Isaiah 61

John 10:10

- *Thief* (klepto) - to steal; bandit, pickpocket who is artful in the way he steals and goes almost unnoticed
- *Kill* (thuo) - to sacrifice, surrender, give up something precious and dear
- *Destroy* - ruin, trash, devastate
- Jesus came to RESTORE what was stolen, killed or destroyed--to fully restore us to be who He made us to be

RESTORE:

- give (something previously stolen, taken away, or lost) back to the original owner
- return, repair or renovate (someone or something) to a former condition or position

Isaiah 61:1-3 (NLT)

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me, for the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed.

2 He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of the Lord's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies.

3 To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks that the Lord has planted for his own glory.

- Luke 4 - Jesus is the fulfillment of this word
- As co-laborers with Jesus, this becomes our ministry too

Jesus was effective at ministering restoration because:

1. He was anointed and filled with the Spirit
 - Jesus was baptized in water and the Holy Spirit came on Him in power
 - The Holy Spirit is in us and on us so we can restore the earth with Him
 - Jesus said He was able to fulfill his mission because God gives the Spirit without measure (John 3:34)
2. He knew His authority
 - Matthew 28:18 - "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Jesus' Ministry of Restoration

1. Jesus restored bodies (repaired, renovated, gave back what was taken)
 - Blind man healed with mud made from spit

- Man with leprosy touched and then healed
- A paralyzed man, lowered through the roof, forgiven of sins and then healed
- Lazarus brought back from the dead--He gave him his life back

2. Jesus ministered restoration to souls

- Rich young ruler wanted to know how to inherit eternal life. Jesus told him to sell everything and give it to the poor - Jesus knew money was his idol and His purpose was restoration
- Martha - His goal was to free her of distraction and performance
- Woman at the well - His focus was her heart, not catching her in sin
- Town prostitute washed Jesus' feet while he was eating at a Pharisee's home
- He appeared to Saul who had been persecuting believers

3. Jesus gave people their lives back

- 2 men possessed with demons, so violent that no one could pass by them, are freed and demons sent into pigs
- Woman guilty of adultery - He gave her her life back and hope for a future

We Have a Ministry of Restoration

Matthew 28:18 - "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore (because of this) and make disciples of all the nations..."

- He's no longer walking the earth--He resides in us
- Ephesians 1:23 - we are the fullness of Christ on the earth--He rules the earth through us

Isaiah 61:4-7 (NLT) - this is what we get to do

4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins, repairing cities destroyed long ago. They will revive them, though they have been deserted for many generations.

5 Foreigners will be your servants. They will feed your flocks and plow your fields and tend your vineyards.

6 You will be called priests of the Lord, ministers of our God. You will feed on the treasures of the nations and boast in their riches.

7 Instead of shame and dishonor, you will enjoy a double share of honor. You will possess a double portion of prosperity in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours.

- Like Jesus, we've been anointed and empowered to restore people
- We have the ability to demonstrate a gospel of power
- It's not just about saving souls, but bringing restoration

28 Sons of Rehoboam (2 Chronicles 11)

- He dealt wisely and dispersed his 28 sons unto every fenced city
- Eastern monarchs ensure peace and tranquility to their kingdom by bestowing government offices on their sons and grandsons

- The king is actually extending his personal influence and reach by releasing his sons to rule--the effectiveness of the kingdom is greater
- It's about releasing sons to do the work--not just anybody, but those that have been raised as sons, know who they are and who they belong to

We are called to restore (this is not a complete list):

1. Health to bodies, souls and spirits
 - Luke 9:1 - "...He gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick."
 - We've been given power and authority to heal every sickness and disease and drive out demons
 - Luke 10:30 - The good samaritan not only took the beaten man to the inn, but provided for his ongoing care so the man could be fully restored
 - We are carriers of His presence
2. Relationships and families
 - We have keys in the Word to healthy relationships - love, honor, laying our life down
 - These keys are not just for the Church
3. Financial prosperity
 - We have heavenly wisdom
 - Proverbs 8:12 - "I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions"--clever and innovative ways
 - "Witty Inventions" through CCC people: It spoke of a release of fresh creativity in many facets (not just technology)--in medicine, arts, education, etc. All to manifest the wisdom, love, and power of God among us.
 - Zaccheus was a wealthy man and lived in the wealthy city of Jericho. He told Jesus he would give half his possessions to the poor and if he cheated anybody out of anything (which tax collectors were known for) he would pay back 4 times the amount.
 - He had a change of heart and released blessing that very well could have wiped out any poverty in Jericho
 - Farming God's Way - equipping and empowering the poor to help themselves by farming using a revelation from God
4. Righteousness in our government

Joseph

Daniel
5. Purity and the power of healing in the arts

WHAT IS YOUR MINISTRY OF RESTORATION?

Isaiah 61:1-4 (AMP)