

January 10, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Isa. 61:1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. (NIV)

We are going to spend some time in this chapter of Isaiah because there are some fascinating teachings that will help us realize the freedom of the LORD in our lives. Isaiah begins by saying that the Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on him. What exactly does that mean? This was a prophecy that was fulfilled through Jesus as He spoke in the synagogue of Nazareth. He opened the scroll to Isaiah 61 and began to read it to those in attendance. **Luke 4:16-21** *He went to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was His custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on Him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”*

Now here is the progression of the benefit of salvation. The Spirit of the LORD is now also upon anyone who will receive the Savior. The purpose is so that we can proclaim the good news to those who do not have it. We are to bring the joy of our salvation to those who do not yet have it and to meet their needs as well. Remember: People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care. To bind up the brokenhearted is a direct idea of this. And then Jesus states that He was sent to proclaim freedom for the captives. Listen folks, every single person in this world is born a slave to sin. It is the curse of Adam, and we have to deal with our sin nature daily. But Jesus came to set us free, because when He sets you free, you are free indeed! Hallelujah! We now have His Spirit’s power to say no to the temptations of sin. We have become overcomers through Him. **Phil. 4:13** *I can do all this through Him Who gives me strength. (NIV)*

Dear LORD, thank You that You have given us the power of Your Holy Spirit to lead us in the way we should go. Thank You that we are not bound to the power of sin. Instead, we have been set free! In Jesus Name, Amen