

Sermon Outline - Sun, Aug 9, 2020 - Jubilee – RESTORE  
(Leviticus 25:13-24; Isaiah 43:16-19)

**\*\*Review\*\*** – 6th week of studying Jubilee /Sabbath year – the cycle God established for Israel that called for the land to rest every 7 years and for a total reset every 50 years. We looked at the practice of Rest, Relying on God, Resetting and last week we focused on Release – we talked about how release was easy for those who had been enslaved, but for them to find freedom, others had to let go of their privilege. Today we dig into the top of RESTORE.

**\*\*Exegesis\*\***

- \* We move from the first 12 verses of Leviticus 25 to the later 12.
- \* Everyone to return to their property which meant returning to their tribe/ family.
- \* Let your economic system be based on the idea that I (God) own everything and every 50 years I will restore it back to the way it should be.
- \* Our Isaiah scripture is the same scripture that Jesus speaks in Luke 4 when he talks about why he has come. He says he will bring the year of Jubilee to pass.
- \* Let the land be redeemed - assumes a deep connection between God, land, and people
- \* Juxtapose God’s system with what Deutero-Isaiah (join Bible Study to understand this reference) is talking about as the text speaks to the Israelites who are in captivity

**\*\*Key Points\*\*** – RESTORE

1. **\*\*The Restoration comes most powerfully to those who have lost.\*\*** Every person named in Isaiah - oppressed, brokenhearted, enslaved, imprisoned, mourning- had experienced some loss – of freedom, of safety, of a loved one. Those who know they have lost are most open to being restored. If you don’t feel that pain in your own life, then you must walk with folks who have – join their tribe.
2. **\*\*Those closest to the pain, will be closest to the power.\*\*** Those who have been restored will lead the restoration of everyone and everything else. Those who are clear about what God has done for them are the ones who set things right.
3. **\*\*There is a deep bond between righteousness and restoration. \*\*** It is not enough to know the right things, but you must live it out to create just systems.

We are in a powerful moment when people are clamoring for restorative justice like God describes. I believe if we want God’s restoration, we must actively restore these ancient traditions. If they could not practice them then, what hope do we have now when our society has all but given up on the idea of Sabbath, when we don’t even talk about the year of Jubilee? Still, I believe that we are called to be the Oaks of Righteousness that the scripture mentions

**\*\*Core Questions – \*\***

1. What is the pain-point in your life that opens you to restoration? Or who are you called to walk with?
2. How does your pain/vulnerability equip you to participate in God’s restoration? Or how can you walk in solidarity to allow those in pain to lead the restoration?
3. What does it look like for you to be more firmly rooted in righteousness?