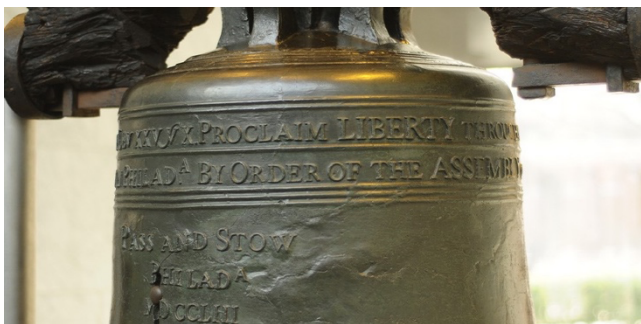




Step #1

Leviticus 25:1–11 (NLT) *The Sabbath Year*

While Moses was on Mount Sinai, the LORD said to him, ²“Give the following instructions to the people of Israel. When you have entered the land I am giving you, the land itself must observe a Sabbath rest before the LORD every seventh year. ³For six years you may plant your fields and prune your vineyards and harvest your crops, ⁴but during the seventh year the land must have a Sabbath year of complete rest. It is the LORD’s Sabbath. Do not plant your fields or prune your vineyards during that year. ⁵And don’t store away the crops that grow on their own or gather the grapes from your unpruned vines. The land must have a year of complete rest. ⁶But you may eat whatever the land produces on its own during its Sabbath. This applies to you, your male and female servants, your hired workers, and the temporary residents who live with you. ⁷Your livestock and the wild animals in your land will also be allowed to eat what the land produces.

The Year of Jubilee

⁸“In addition, you must count off seven Sabbath years, seven sets of seven years, adding up to forty-nine years in all. ⁹Then on the Day of Atonement in the fiftieth year, blow the ram’s horn loud and long throughout the land. ¹⁰Set this year apart as holy, **a time to proclaim freedom throughout the land for all who live there.** It will be a jubilee year for you, when each of you may return to the land that belonged to your ancestors and return to your own clan. ¹¹This fiftieth year will be a jubilee for you. During that year you must not plant your fields or store away any of the crops that grow on their own, and don’t gather the grapes from your unpruned vines.

(There is a year of Jubilee in OT Israel, where all debts are cancelled, a year of rest, a year to keep holy.)

Step #2

Isaiah 61:1–3 (NASB95) *Exaltation of the Afflicted* ¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners; ²**To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD** And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³To grant those who mourn *in* Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead

of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.

- **The Year of Jubilee:** *The phrase "the acceptable year of the Lord" alludes to the Old Testament Year of Jubilee (found in Leviticus 25). Every 50 years, ancient Israel was commanded to cancel debts, release slaves, and return ancestral lands. Isaiah is pointing to a permanent, spiritual "Jubilee".*
- **Beauty for Ashes:** *During times of intense mourning, it was an ancient custom to sit in ashes. The promise to give "beauty for ashes" meant God would reverse Israel's despair and national grief, turning their ruin into splendor.*

Reference of why Isaiah prophesied this...

The passage of **Isaiah 61** is historically situated in the **post-exilic period** following the Babylonian captivity (around 538 BC), and it explicitly refers to **the arrival of the Messiah** who brings ultimate spiritual and physical liberation.

While written to comfort Jewish refugees returning to a physically and economically devastated Jerusalem, the text functions as a prophetic template fulfilled centuries later by Jesus Christ.

Step #3

Luke 4:16–21 (NLT) ¹⁶ When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. ¹⁷ The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written: ¹⁸ **"The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, ¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD's favor has come."** ²⁰ He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. ²¹ Then he began to speak to them. **"The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!"**



The Pennsylvania Assembly needed a bell for the Pennsylvania State House, and chose the Leviticus 25:10 verse to be inscribed on the bell ("Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof")

1. Blessed Is The Nation Whose God is The Lord!

Psalms 33:12 (NLT) ¹² What joy for the nation whose God is the LORD, whose people he has chosen as his inheritance.

Psalms 33:12 (NASB95) Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

Psalms 33:12 (NIV) ¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.

Luke 4:18–19 (NLT) ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free,” ¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD’s favor has come.”

Proverbs 14:34 (NLT) ³⁴ Godliness makes a nation great, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NLT) ¹⁴ Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.

John 10:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

Matthew 9:36–38 (NLT) ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸ So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.”

- a. Be Thankful for Freedom and Liberty that we have in this nation! It ultimately comes from the heart of God!
- b. Be Thankful for Blessings that we have in this nation! They ultimately come from God!

- People who know Jesus get free, make people free, and make nations of freedom.
- Make no mistake, freedom and liberty are a thing that is born in the heart of God
- The season of jubilee has come into the hearts of man through Jesus.

Freedom & Liberty are often used interchangeably, there is a subtle distinction: freedom describes a broad state of acting without restraint, whereas liberty specifically suggests being released from a prior, oppressive restraint or control.

- **Freedom:** The power or right to act, speak, or think without hindrance. It has a very broad range of application, from the total absence of restraint to simply feeling unhindered.
- **Liberty:** A release from former restraint, compulsion, or arbitrary restrictions imposed by authority. In a political or legal context, it implies civil rights and privileges guaranteed by law.

2. Freedom in Jesus

(Freedom - A primary message of Jesus)

Luke 4:18–19 (NLT) ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, ¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD’s favor has come.”

- Jesus didn’t free Israel from Rome. (an oppressive ruling government)
- Jesus came to free people, hearts, and minds from things like hell, sin, hopelessness, condemnation, demonic oppression, rejection/hurt, shame, fear, anger, heaviness, etc.
- Those free people, bring about liberty in governments if they are in charge

John 8:32; 34–36 (NLT) ³² And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

³⁴ Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. ³⁵ A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free.

Romans 6:6–7 (NLT) ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin.

Galatians 5:1 (NLT) *Freedom in Christ* So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don’t get tied up again in slavery to the law.

3. Rest in Jesus

Matthew 11:28–30 (NLT) ²⁸ Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”

John 14:27 (NLT) ²⁷ “I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.

2 Corinthians 3:17–18 (NLT) ¹⁷ For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

How do we rest in hardships of life, hardships of ministry? Hear & Do & Trust = Peace
[Hear (Holy Spirit, word, prayer, worship, shepherds, fellow biblical believers, and those operating in gifts of spirit) & Do + Trust = Peace]

Come to Jesus – surrender or trust, continually stay with him, and if you need more rest come more to Him.