

I CAME TO SET THE CAPTIVES FREE!

Luke 4:18-19 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

- ▶ Why does poverty exist? Or captivity, or blindness, or oppression?
- ▶ Jesus was sent for deliverance. He was sent to deliver us from an otherwise hopeless situation. Were all familiar with the big picture, Jesus came to save us from our sin, but it goes much deeper than that. When we come to faith in Christ, we are saved from the *punishment* of sin but we still contend with sin. The Bible tells us in Romans chapter 8 that we are more than conquerors but many times that's the last thing we are experiencing.
- ▶ Fact: Jesus not only came to pay for our sin but also to deliver us from its grip.

Galatians 5:16-17 “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.”

THERE IS A WAY OUT!

1 Corinthians 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”

• How do we *get* there?

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: ¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. ¹¹ Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹² Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”



- **How do we *stay* there?**

John 15:4 “Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

Revelation 12:10-11 “And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.”

