

# Jesus' Mission is Our Mission

With today being the 4th of July, our minds naturally focus on the celebration of freedom and liberty that we enjoy in this nation. As we reflect on the freedom we enjoy, we also need to be aware of those living here who remain in bondage. Yes, physically and emotionally they may be free, but spiritually they remain captive to sin. Will we respond in the way Jesus did?

## I. The Messiah's Mission

- A. Luke 4.18a - Preach Good News to the Poor
  - 1. **Good news**, is the gospel ... a celebratory announcement ...
  - 2. **Poor**, means "to shrink back," "to cringe," or "to cower."
  - 3. Psalm 107.4-9 - the Messiah brings good news to those spiritually bankrupt.
- B. Luke 4.18b - Proclaim Release to the Captives
  - 1. **Captive**: imagery is of a POW ...
  - 2. Isaiah 42.6-7 ... God wants to *bring out prisoners from the dungeon and those sitting in darkness from the prison house.*
  - 3. Luke 4.18b - "release" means *forgiveness*. Jesus paid the price.
  - 4. Colossians 2.14 - *He has taken it away by nailing it to the **cross**.*
  - 5. Psalm 107.10-16 - the only hope is the Lord.
- C. Luke 4.18c - Recover the Sight of the Blind
  - 1. Jeremiah 5.21: *they have eyes, but they don't see; they have **ears**, but they don't hear.*
  - 2. 2 Corinthians 4.4 - Paul said **Satan** *blinds the eyes* of those who do not believe.
  - 3. John 3.19-20 - *people loved darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil.*
  - 4. The good news: John 8.12 - Jesus is the **light** of the world.
  - 5. Psalm 107.19: *When we cried out in our trouble, the Lord saved us from our distress.*
- D. Luke 4.18d - To Set Free the Oppressed
  - 1. **Oppressed** is describing someone: overwhelmed by the pain of life.
  - 2. Isaiah 58.6: God has come to *break the chains of wickedness, to untie the ropes of the yoke, to set the oppressed free, and to tear off every yoke...*
  - 3. Matthew 11.28-29 - The Messiah has come to bring **rest**.
- E. 4.19a - To Proclaim the Year of the Lord's Favor

## II. Jesus' Mission is Our Mission

- A. Everything Jesus said and did was to get us to trust Him and imitate Him.
  - 1. John 20.21: *As the Father has sent me, I also send you.*
  - 2. 1 Peter 2:21: *For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered **for you**, leaving you an **example**, that you should follow in his steps.*
- B. Will we refuse Satan's power and rely on the Spirit's power?
- C. We must go on offense to set the captives free.
  - 1. Luke 4.18-19 is our mission. We don't wait for them to come to us. We go to them.

## III. As We Close...

- A. Luke 4.19a - *to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*
- B. Now is the time of salvation.
  - 1. 2 Corinthians 6.2: *now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation!*
  - 2. 2 Thessalonians 1.7-8 - a day of vengeance will come. There is still time.

C. Do you need to be saved? How can we help?