

I. The will of God is freedom

A. Luke 4:18-19 NKJV “The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, **to proclaim liberty to *the* captives** and recovery of sight to *the* blind, **to set at liberty those who are oppressed**; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”

1. **“Liberty” (KJV): deliverance to the captives – to set at liberty them that are bruised.**
 - *The same Gr. Word for deliverance is used as liberty*
 - *To release from bondage or imprisonment*
 - *Forgiveness of sin or pardon of sins – letting them go as if they have never been committed – remission of the penalty.*
2. **“Captive”**: a prisoner of war – one who was captured or taken.
3. **“Bruised”**: oppressed (NKJV) - To break – break in pieces – shatter.
4. Jesus’ mission was to bring DELIVERANCE – LIBERTY – FREEDOM – RELEASE to those who have been captured by the enemy and those who have been BRUISED – Broken.
5. It doesn’t matter how BROKEN you are – It doesn’t matter how long you have been a PRISONER OF WAR - JESUS CAME TO ANNOUNCE FREEDOM! - LIBERTY
6. If He came to PROCLAIM it, it is time to RECEIVE IT.

B. Other Scriptures

1. **2 Cor 3:17**
 - **NKJV** “Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty.”
 - **AMP** “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, *there is* liberty [emancipation from bondage, true freedom]”
2. **John 8:36**
 - **NKJV** “Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed”
 - **GWT** “So if the Son sets you free, you will be absolutely free.”

C. The ministry of Jesus is a ministry of freedom. Freedom is demonstrated through His mercy and compassion.

1. **Mercy and compassion are the Lord’s desire.**
 - a. **Micah 7:18 NKJV** “Who *is* a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights *in* mercy”

- b. **2 Cor 1:3 NKJV** “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort”
- c. **God desires to SHOW MERCY and COMPASSION**
- d. **Psalm 145:8-9 NKJV** “The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD *is* good to all, And His tender mercies *are* over all His works”
- e. **The earthly ministry of Jesus**
 - **Mark 1:40-42 NKJV** “Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, ‘If You are willing, You can make me clean’. Then Jesus, **moved with compassion**, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, ‘I am willing; be cleansed.’ As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.”
 - **Matt 9:36 NKJV** “But when He saw the multitudes, **He was moved with compassion** on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.”
 - **Luke 7:11-14 NKJV** “Now it happened, the day after, *that* He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, **He had compassion on her** and said to her, ‘Do not weep.’ Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried *him* stood still. And He said, ‘Young man, I say to you, arise’.”
 - **Matt 14:14 NKJV** “And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and **He was moved with compassion for them**, and healed their sick.”
 - **Matt 20:29-34 NKJV** “Now as they went out of Jericho, a great multitude followed Him. And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, ‘Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!’ Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, ‘**Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!**’ So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, ‘What do you want Me to do for you?’ They said to Him, ‘Lord, that our eyes may be opened.’ **So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes**. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.”
 - **Mark 5:18-19 - The Demoniac of Gadara** “And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, ‘Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.’”

- II. God wants you to be free—Free means Free!**
- A. Prerequisites to Freedom**
1. **You must believe that He desires for you to be free.**
 2. **You must accept that the gift of freedom flows from his mercy and compassion – *You cannot earn it!***
 3. **You must release your faith to believe – it is possible to be free!**
 - a. My freedom has been paid for!
 - b. Freedom belongs to me in Christ.
 - c. I have a legal right to be free- therefore Satan has no rights to maintain control over any area of my life!
 - d. I am FREE!
- B. Freedom from long-term reoccurring issues**
1. **Examples – Strongholds - addictions – long-term strategies of Satan – Plans and Strategies of the enemy – Devices – techniques – anything and everything used of the enemy – to MAINTAIN CONTROL of specific areas of your life.**
 2. **Nahum Chapter 1**
 - *The Lord is declaring the FINAL DESTRUCTION of Nineveh, the capital city of Ancient Assyria.*
 - **The Lord is declaring and END to a LONG-TERM enemy.**
 3. **Nahum 1: 7-9 NKJV** “The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him. But with an overflowing flood He will make an utter end of its place, And darkness will pursue His enemies. What do you conspire against the LORD? He will make an utter end of it. Affliction will not rise up a second time.”
 - **The Lord is declaring an UTTER END -to the enemy’s reign over His people.**
 - **Utter End – to full end – to completion - to FINISH**
 - *The Lord is declaring – IT IS FINISHED to the enemy*
 - **NIV** “Whatever they plot against the LORD He will bring to an end; trouble will not come a second time.”
 - **AMP** “Whatever [plot] you [Assyrians] devise against the LORD, He will make a complete end of it; Affliction [of God’s people by the hand of Assyria] will not occur twice.”
 4. **Nahum 1:15**
 - **NKJV** “Behold, on the mountains The feet of him who brings good tidings, Who proclaims peace! O Judah, keep your appointed feasts, Perform your vows. For the wicked one shall no more pass through you; He is utterly cut off.”
 - **MSG** “Look! Striding across the mountains — a messenger bringing the latest good news: peace! A holiday, Judah! Celebrate! Worship and

recommit to God! No more worries about *this* enemy. This one is history. Close the books.”

5. **Its time to receive – and Celebrate!**
 - a. **This one is in your past.**
 - b. **This thing shall not arise a second time.**
 - c. **It’s over.**
 - d. **This one is history.**
 - e. **CLOSE THE BOOK**
6. **1 Kings 5:4 - David’s Rest** “But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side; *there is neither adversary nor evil occurrence*”

In Conclusion:

- **God wants us to be FREE.**
- **God desires for us to be free more than we want to be free.**
- **His freedom comes to us through the flow of compassion and mercy.**
- **If the Lord would move for those in scripture by compassion, He will have compassion on us.** *When we fail, when we cannot help ourselves, when we have exhausted every self-effort of our own.*
- **Receive HIS compassion/Mercy.**