

The Certainty of the Good News

How can we thrive in the Kingdom of God?

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How can we thrive in the Kingdom of God?

Thriving depends on dependence

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Then Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread throughout the entire vicinity. He was teaching in their synagogues, being praised by everyone.

Luke 4:14-15 CSB

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He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. As usual, he entered the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him, and unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written:

Luke 4:16-17 CSB

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The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to **proclaim** release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free the oppressed,
to **proclaim** the year of the Lord's favor.

Luke 4:18-19 CSB

The Certainty of the Good News

Key Elements of the Year of Jubilee *(and Sabbath Years)*

A year of humanity ruling creation with relief from toil

No sickness, disease, war, shame, debt, wild animals, famines, drought, natural disasters

A year enjoying what God has abundantly provided

Only occurs if in right relationship with God

Those with abundance blessing those who struggle

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Thriving is not about present circumstances

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on him. He began by saying to them, "**Today** as you listen, this Scripture has been fulfilled." They were all speaking well of him and were amazed by the gracious words that came from his mouth; yet they said, "Isn't this Joseph's son?"

Luke 4:20-22 CSB

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How can we thrive in the Kingdom of God?

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How can we thrive in the Kingdom of God?

Thriving depends on dependence

Thriving is not about present circumstances

Thriving is utterly rejected by the world

Then he said to them, "No doubt you will quote this proverb to me: 'Doctor, heal yourself. What we've heard that took place in Capernaum, do here in your hometown also.' "

Luke 4:23 CSB

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He also said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But I say to you, there were certainly **many widows in Israel** in Elijah's days, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months while a great famine came over all the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them except **a widow at Zarephath in Sidon**. And in the prophet Elisha's time, there were **many in Israel who had leprosy**, and yet not one of them was cleansed except **Naaman the Syrian**."

Luke 4:24-27 CSB

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Luke 4:24-27 CSB

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When they heard this, everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They got up, drove him out of town, and brought him to the edge of the hill that their town was built on, intending to hurl him over the cliff. But he passed right through the crowd and went on his way.

Luke 4:28-30 CSB

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A mob could not legally execute capital punishment in Jewish Palestine; the crowd is thus unusually angry—especially to attempt this execution on the sabbath (v. 16). Although Nazareth does not appear to have been built on a hill per se, like many ancient cities it was set in the hill country, with plenty of jagged rocks and cliffs nearby. Stoning began with throwing the criminal over a cliff, then hurling rocks nearly the size of one's head on top of the victim. One aimed for the chest first, but at such a distance one's aim would not be particularly accurate.

IVP Bible Background Commentary: NT

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How can we thrive in the Kingdom of God?

Thriving depends on dependence

The King is your only source of true freedom

Thriving is not about present circumstances

The King has already given you everything you need

Thriving is utterly rejected by the world

The King and His Kingdom will never be controlled by this world

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