

# Christmas 2018 - Isaiah 9 - Freedom

Isa 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

- **Why is the “FOR” there?** - the for refers back to something said previously...In other words these three things exist BECAUSE this child was born -- 3 things Jesus brought because of his birth:

## Three things Jesus did at His Birth

1. LIGHT - He brought light into the world ~ People walking in darkness saw a great light
2. JOY - You have increased their joy
3. FREEDOM - You have shattered the yoke that burdens them

## Today we will talk about FREEDOM

Isa 9:2-4 ESV [vs 2&3 LIGHT and JOY] -- now 4 For the **yoke of his burden**, and **the staff for his shoulder**, the rod of his oppressor, you have **broken as on the day of Midian**.

## .....You “HAVE BROKEN” as on the Day of Midian

7 Yrs Midianites oppressed Israel (kill, steal and destroy,(stole crops, livestock, and harassed the people)

- The yoke of his burden - **heavy load**
- The staff for his shoulder - a staff to beat down - **a stick to punish**
- The rod of his **oppressor** -- *to drive*; by implication to **tax, harass, tyrannize**:

FIRST: **Israel was outnumbered (4:1) (Midianites - 135,000 - Israel 32,000)** see Judges 6-8

The LORD said there were **too many for me to give you victory**, you would boast and say “My own hand has saved me”

SECOND: Send away those who are **fearful** (22,000 left) Army is now 10,000 strong - **(13.5:1)**

The LORD said **there are STILL too many**

THIRD: separate them by how they drink (those who kneel and drink, and those who lap like a dog)

**300 lapped like a dog** (Gideon thanks, Whew! Glad we are only losing 300, but instead the LORD told him to KEEP the 300 and sent the 9,700 away **(450:1)**

FOURTH: He gave each of the 300 a **trumpet**, a **clay jar** and a **candle**

## LESSONS:

- We are in a battle **we could never win** in our own strength
- The LORD wants us to realize that **VICTORY is ONLY BECAUSE of HIM**
- The **“day of Midian”** showed the power of the LORD in a **total defeat of the enemy**

## One Reason Jesus Came was to Destroy the works of the devil

- 1Jn 3:8-9 ESV *Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil*, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was **to destroy the works of the devil**. 9 *No one born of God makes a practice of sinning*, for God's seed abides in him, and *he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God*.
- **One of the primary ways Jesus destroys the works of the devil is through our salvation**
  - Practice Sin = of the devil - Does not practice sin - born of God - God's seed is in him...he cannot keep on sinning

## The work of Jesus

### **THE ANOINTED ONE, the CHRIST - (Messiah) to Heal those oppressed by the devil**

- Act 10:38 ESV how *God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power*. He went about **doing good** and **healing** all who were **oppressed** by the devil, for God was with him.

### **At the beginning of His ministry, He claimed to be the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One**

- Luk 4:17-21 ESV [*Jesus read from the scroll*]..... "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." 20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

### **When John had doubts about the identity of Jesus, Jesus pointed to the work he was doing**

- Luk 7:20-23 ESV And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" 21 In that hour he **healed** many people of **diseases** and **plagues** and **evil spirits**, and on many who were **blind** he bestowed sight. 22 And he answered them, "**Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them.**" 23 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

## Christ defeated Satan at the cross - this is a past tense thing

- Col 2:13-15 ESV And you, who **were dead** in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God **made alive** together with him, having **forgiven us** all our trespasses, 14 by **canceling** the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. **This he set aside, nailing it to the cross**. 15 He **disarmed** the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by **triumphing** over them in him **[by the cross]**.

## When saved we are removed from the dominion of Satan (days of Midian)

- Col 1:13-14 ESV **He has delivered us** from the **domain** of darkness and transferred us to the **kingdom** of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## We have been given authority over Satan

- Luk 10:17-20 ESV The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" 18 And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, **I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.** 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

## YET - Don't surrender your authority

### **Submit FIRST to God - THEN resist**

- Jas 4:7 ESV **Submit** yourselves therefore to God. **Resist** the devil, and he will flee from you.

### **Don't Give Place to the Devil**

- Eph 4:26-27 ESV Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and **give no opportunity to the devil.**

### **Sin no longer has dominion, but we can yield ourselves to obedience or to sin (choose wisely)**

- Rom 6:14-16 ESV For **sin will have no dominion over you**, since you are not under law but under grace. 15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 **Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?**

### **Remain in the WORD**

- Joh 8:30-36 ESV As he was saying these things, many believed in him. 31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "**If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.**" 33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" 34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So **if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**

### **SUMMARY AND CLOSING**

Isa 61:1-3 ESV The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring **good news** to the **poor**; he has sent me to bind up the **brokenhearted**, to proclaim liberty to the **captives**, and the opening of the prison to those who are **bound**; 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who **mourn**; 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion-- to give them a **beautiful** headdress instead of **ashes**, the oil of **gladness** instead of **mourning**, the garment of **praise** instead of a faint **spirit**; that they may be called **oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.**