

## #11 The Jubilee (2)

(Crystallization-study of Leviticus 2) 2018/10/29-11/4

**I. Announcing the gospel to the poor, proclaiming release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, and sending away in release those who are oppressed are the freedoms and blessings of the jubilee:**

**Luke 4:18** "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to announce the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away in release those who are oppressed,

**19** To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, the year of jubilee."

**A.** The word jubilee in Leviticus 25:10 means "a time of shouting," or "a time of the trumpeting of the ram's horn"; the trumpeting of the ram's horn signifies the preaching of the gospel as the proclaiming of liberty in the New Testament jubilee to all the sinners sold under sin that they may return to God and God's family, the household of God, and may rejoice with shouting in the New Testament enjoyment of God's salvation.

**Lev. 25:10** And you shall sanctify the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you; and each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.

**B.** Our preaching of the gospel is our blowing of the trumpet of redemption to proclaim to the world, "Behold, now is the well-acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation," the year of jubilee:

① When God created man, He intended to give Himself in Christ to man as man's possession, man's inheritance<sup>1</sup>); however, man became fallen, and in the fall man lost God as his possession and sold himself into slavery under sin, Satan, and the world.

② God's New Testament salvation, accomplished by God's grace based on His redemption in Christ, brings fallen man back to God as his divine possession, releases man from slavery under sin, Satan, and the world, and restores man to his divine family, the household of God, that he may enjoy fellowship in God's grace. **(Mon)**

**II. God's salvation causes us to have real freedom; our possession is God, and our freedom comes from our enjoyment of God:**

**A.** If man does not enjoy God, he cannot have real freedom; freedom means release, to be freed from all bondage, all heavy burden, all oppression, and all enslavement.

**John 8:32** And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.

**36** If therefore the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed.

**B.** Everything in our life can be a bondage to us, and we can be slaves under any matter.

**John 8:34** Jesus answered them, Truly, truly, I say to

you, Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin.

**C.** First, Satan captured us; then he came to dwell in us as the inciter, the instigator, of our sins; the result is that he has become our illegal master, and we have become his captives to the extent that we are unable to do good and can only commit sins

① If a man does not have God, whatever he tries to enjoy apart from God is dog food, refuse, and dung.

② Satan is called Beelzebul, which means "the lord of the dunghill," from Beelzebub, meaning "the lord of flies"; Satan specializes in leading sinners like flies to feed on dung.

③ Although deep in his heart no one wants to sin, everyone eventually sins; no one has control over himself, and everyone has become a slave of sin.

**(Tue)**

**III. Paul's desperate cry in Romans 7:24 is answered in Romans 8:2, which says that the law of the Spirit of life has freed us in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death; this is the freedom of Christ as the jubilee:**

**8:2** For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

**A.** We can be released and have real freedom only by enjoying Christ as the life-giving Spirit; only those who enjoy God do not commit sin and are really free, living a life of liberty, release, and freedom from bondage:

① The law of the Spirit of life releases us from the law of sin and of death; this law is the Lord Himself, who passed through death and resurrection to become the life-giving Spirit.

② If we do not enjoy the Lord sufficiently, we will still be in bondage to many things; making up our mind will not work; we must continually come to the Lord to eat and enjoy Him.

③ Only those who enjoy God do not practice sin and are really free.

④ Christ as the jubilee frees us from our poverty, captivity, blindness, and oppression. **(Wed)**

**B.** Paul made a great discovery in receiving the revelation of the Triune God being processed through incarnation, human living, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension to become the law of the Spirit of life installed in our spirit

**C.** The law of the Spirit of life is the automatic principle and spontaneous power of the divine life; it is the natural characteristic and the innate, automatic function of the divine life.

**D.** A Christian should not live by the power of his will but by the power of the inner law of the Spirit of resurrection life in his spirit; this law possesses the greatest power; it overcomes death, transcends death, and is not bound by death

① In Romans 7 Paul describes the wretchedness of his trying to do good under the law; he needed the Lord as the compassionate Samaritan-Neighbor to care for him as a fallen and law-stricken sinner by dispensing Himself into him as the law of the Spirit of life for the reality of the Body of Christ.

**Rom. 7:24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from the body of this death?**

② We must see that sin and death are a law in us and that our willpower cannot overcome this law.

③ If we have not seen that sin is a law and that our will can never overcome this law, we are trapped in Romans 7; we will never arrive at Romans 8.

④ Every life has a law and even is a law; God's life is the highest life, and the law of the Spirit of life is the highest law.

⑤ The divine birth has transferred us into a new realm, the realm of the divine life with its law in our spirit, a realm in which there is no sin, world, or flesh:

a. In this realm all victories are spontaneous, automatic, unconscious, and effortless because the law of the Spirit of life is upholding us, not our own will.

b. We have the law of the Spirit of life indwelling our spirit as the presence of God, the speaking of God, the meeting with God, and the dispensing of God.

**(Thu)**

E. We can cooperate with the installed and inner operating law of the Spirit of life by exercising our spirit to "switch on" this law so that we can enjoy Christ as the freedom and living of the jubilee.

**Rom. 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.**

**6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.**

F. Apart from the "switch" of our spirit, we have no way to apply the processed Triune God as the "heavenly electricity" in us, but praise the Lord that we have a switch and that we know where it is!

G. The best way to switch on the divine and mystical "current" of the flowing Spirit in our spirit is to call on the name of the Lord Jesus.

H. When we contact the Spirit through the exercise of our spirit, we enjoy Christ as all the myriad and rich aspects of the jubilee.

I. Paul was a person who switched on the law of the Spirit of life by serving God in his spirit out of his first love for the Lord

① To love the Lord with the first love is to give Him the first place in all things and in all matters, regarding Him as everything in our life.

② When God comes into us and comes out of us, that is our service to Him; we work together with Christ in the churches, where we render our first love to Him.

③ When we love the Lord with the first love, we do the first works—works that issue from and express the first love; only those works that are motivated by the first love are gold, silver, and precious stones.

④ Christ's love of affection constrains us to live to Him and to die to Him.

J. By setting our mind on the spirit, we enjoy Christ as the jubilee—"the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace" (Rom.

8:6).

K. The jubilee in Romans 8 is the reality of the Body of Christ—the corporate living of the perfected Godmen—displayed in Romans 12 through 16; this reality consummates in the New Jerusalem; thus, Romans 8 is the focus of the entire Bible and the center of the universe:

① God accomplishes His economy by dispensing Himself into us as the law of the Spirit of life

② The law of the Spirit of life constitutes us to be the members of the Body of Christ, with all kinds of functions.

③ Through the spontaneous, automatic function of the law of the Spirit of life within us, we are enabled to know God, gain God, and thereby live God, causing us to be constituted with God that we may become His increase and His enlargement to be His fullness for His expression. **(Fri)**

**IV. The living of the jubilee is a living in the enjoyment of Christ, a living of enjoying God as our inheritance and real freedom:**

A. To be in the jubilee is to eat the Lord Jesus as the real produce of the good land, take Him as our dwelling place for our rest, and be freed from the slavery of sin and from the bondage of law and religion.

B. The only way to be released from the three kinds of labor in human life—the labor to be a good person, the labor of anxiety, and the labor of suffering—is to take Christ as our enjoyment, satisfaction, and rest.

C. The Christian life should be a life full of enjoying the Lord, a life full of joy and praises; when we enjoy the Lord fully, He becomes our jubilee:

① The tone of an overcoming living is the tone of rejoicing, thanking, and praising God continually.

② The overcoming life can survive only in an environment of thanksgiving and praise.

D. The living of the jubilee is a life in which we take God Himself, Christ Himself, in every situation; then He becomes the primary factor and center in us to lead us and overrule all the troubles of human life

E. Paul learned the secret of living in the jubilee, the secret of gaining Christ in any kind of environment.

**Phil. 4:6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;**

**7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.**

**4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.**

F. Because everything is under His sovereignty, we should pray, "Lord, fill me, gain me, and possess me; no matter what my outward situation is, I just want to enjoy You."

G. We need to be today's ministers and witnesses by living and proclaiming the gospel—Christ as the jubilee of grace—for the accomplishing of God's eternal economy. **(Sat)**

## Experience①: Return to the house of God and return to God as our possession.

We enjoy God as the possession of the jubilee and obtain the freedom of the jubilee...We saw the possession of the jubilee, and now we will see the freedom of the jubilee. Possession and freedom are both positive, but there is a difference between them. Some may say that they would rather have freedom than a possession, but this concept is not correct. Our possession is God. We cannot renounce God, saying that we want freedom instead of God, because without God there is no freedom. Our possession is God, and our freedom comes from our enjoyment of God. When we have our possession and enjoy our possession, the result is that we have freedom. Freedom is to be without oppression or deficiency...How we thank God that today He is our possession, and when we enjoy Him, we have freedom!

The Old Testament describes the year of jubilee very well. Leviticus 25 is a long chapter, but it has only two main points. The first point is that in the year of jubilee all those who had lost their possession were returned to it. The possession was not returned to its original owner; it was the owner who was returned to his possession. On the one hand, man left and lost his possession, but on the other hand, his possession lost him. Did we lose God, or did God lose us? Both are true; we lost God, and God lost us. As we have seen, the parable of the prodigal son in Luke 15 is an illustration of the year of jubilee. We are all the real prodigal sons. Today even kings, presidents, prime ministers, and cabinet officials are prodigal sons. In this parable, did the son lose his father, or did the father lose his son? This parable mainly does not speak of the son's losing the father. In verse 24 the father said, "This son of mine was dead and lives again; he was lost and has been found." From this verse we can see that the father's losing the son is emphasized more than the son's losing the father. Therefore, in the year of jubilee we mainly do not have our possession restored to us; rather, we are returned to our possession. Primarily, God is not restored to us; we are returned to God. The greatest blessing in the year of jubilee is that we are returned to God as our possession. This is the first main point in Leviticus 25.

### For new ones

Those who have come into the church life by being saved recently or by moving should realize that the new testament age is the age of jubilee. The Lord cried out and blew the trumpet to announce you the liberation, causing you to return to your possession and to your family.

Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to announce the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to proclaim release to the

captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away in release those who are oppressed,

FN[Year of jubilee]: The New Testament age, typified by the year of jubilee. The New Testament age would be the time when God would accept the returned captives of sin and when those oppressed under the bondage of sin would enjoy the release of God's salvation and keep the New Testament jubilee.

You were released from the captives of sin and return to the church life. Welcome back to the church as the house of God! We, together with God, warmly welcome you.

In the church life, God Himself is the possession for you to enjoy and when you enjoy this possession, you partake of the liberation. Don't consider yourself as the poor. Since you possess God, you are richer than millionaires. When you enjoy God as your possession, you can be free from jealousy, rivalry, outburst of anger and lust. So you can be different from your classmates and be truly rich person. Hallelujah!

Prayer: "Oh, Lord Jesus, thank You for releasing me from the captives of sin. Now I return to home and making God as my possession. I enjoy God with brothers and sisters every day in the church life. If I do this, I can be truly rich person. Praise the Lord. Hallelujah!"

### Experience②: Switch on the law of the Spirit of life

The power of sin is strong; our own power is weak. The power of sin always prevails, while our own power always fails. As soon as Paul realized that sin is a law, he knew that none of his methods would work. His determination was useless; he would never overcome the law of sin by his will. This was a great discovery, a great revelation to him.

Paul saw that a man cannot experience deliverance by the exercise of the will. As long as a man trusts in the power of his own will, he will not turn to God's way of deliverance. The day will come when you will prostrate yourself before God and acknowledge that you can do nothing and henceforth will do nothing. That will be the day you find deliverance. Only then will you understand Romans 8. Brothers and sisters, please do not belittle Romans 7. We must first have the knowledge of chapter 7 before we can have the experience of chapter 8. The problem is not whether you understand the doctrine in Romans 8 but whether or not you have emerged from Romans 7. Many have buried themselves in Romans 7; they are still trying to deal with sin by their will. The result is nothing but failure. If you have not seen that sin is a law and that your will can never overcome this law, you are trapped in Romans 7; you will never arrive at Romans 8....All your willing and struggling is in vain.

The realization of the Holy Spirit as a law is a great discovery....All victories are unconscious victories because the law of the Holy Spirit is operating and upholding us, not our own will....Only the indwelling Spirit can keep you from sin; you do not have to will not to sin. It is also the indwelling Holy Spirit who is enabling you to overcome; you do not have to will to overcome. Since this law dwells in you, you are delivered from the law of sin and of death. You are in Christ Jesus, and the law of the Spirit of life is in you. Spontaneously, you are free. As long as you do not rely on your own will and effort, the Holy Spirit will bring you into victory.

### For Junior & Senior High School / College Students

You should desire to be delivered from the law of sin and experience this struggle. And the conclusion of this experience is that you can not overcome the law of Satan, the law of sin by yourself. As a result you may lose hope in yourself. This is the experience of Paul in Romans 7. Without the experience in Romans 7, you can not experience the deliverance of the law of the Spirit of life in Romans 8. Of course, you should not remain in the despair in Romans 7. After the despair, you should be able to come to the great discovery of the law of the Spirit of life.

The law of sin always prevails the law of trying to do good. In the same way, the law of the Spirit of life always prevails the law of sin and of death. Your life of victory does not depend on your strong will. It is by discovering the law of the Spirit of life and switching on the law. The easiest way to switch on this law is to call on the name of the Lord. For example, when you are tired of study, when you can not try any longer, just call on the name of the Lord and switch on the law of the Spirit of life and you can experience the deliverance from the law of the sin and of death.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, I have been struggling to be free from the captives of sin, but only to find failure. But thank the Lord. I found that Paul struggled in Romans 7 and failed and was disappointed. This experience led Paul to the deliverance of the law of the Spirit of life in Romans 8. This is a great discovery to me! I would no longer trust myself, call upon the name of the Lord and switch on the law of the Spirit of life and experience wonderful deliverance! Amen!"

### Experience③: Enjoy the life of Jubilee and be released from three kinds of labor in human life

There are three kinds of labor in human life, not including working at a job to earn a living. The first kind of labor is the labor to be a good person, to have good behavior, and to improve one's character....[But] no one can be saved by the works of trying to improve one's behavior and character, to keep the law, and to be good, patient, kind, and honest. The second kind of labor is to worry, to be

anxious. What a hard job it is to labor under anxiety! If you could do your job day by day without having any anxiety, you would be a healthy person....The only way to escape anxiety is to enjoy the Lord. Whenever I am not enjoying Christ, I have anxiety.

The third kind of labor revealed in the Bible is suffering. Suffering is a very hard labor. When we enjoy God in the jubilee, there should not be any suffering. Paul, for example, suffered from a "thorn in the flesh". Concerning this thorn, he entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from him (v. 8). However, instead of removing the thorn, the Lord said to him, "My grace is sufficient for you." The Lord seemed to be telling Paul, "No, I shall not remove the thorn, for My grace is sufficient. If you enjoy Me, you will not have any suffering."...In Acts 16...although Paul and Silas were in prison, they had enjoyment, satisfaction, and rest.

The Lord has won the victory, and we are shouting in victory. This is the tone of an overcoming living. Every one of us should have this kind of overcoming tone in our daily life....Being more than conquerors is being victorious continuously and having a tone of victory all the time.

Everything is under His sovereignty. Therefore, we should empty ourselves of everything and tell the Lord, "Fill me, gain me, and possess me. Lord, no matter what the outward situation is, I just want to enjoy You."

### For Young working saints/graduate students

OL: The only way to be released from the three kinds of labor in human life—the labor to be a good person, the labor of anxiety, and the labor of suffering—is to take Christ as our enjoyment, satisfaction, and rest. The Christian life should be a life full of enjoying the Lord, a life full of joy and praises; when we enjoy the Lord fully, He becomes our jubilee:

Please experience the deliverance from the three kind of labor by enjoying the life of jubilee as a business person. Do not try to be a good person, rather you need to be a person with result for the Lord's testimony. In the fellowship with God, let God know all your anxieties like "I may not be promoted", "younger ones or female may get ahead of me", "I may be fired" "rival company may beat us", "our company may go bankrupt", and experience to be guarded by the God of peace.

Phil. 4:6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

Prayer: "Oh Lord Jesus, deliver me from anxiety. I let God know all my anxiety in my prayer. May God of peace guard my heart."

Hymn #540