

Fulfilling the Ministry of Christ

Text: Isaiah 61:1-11

Context - After the failure of Israel and its devastation by the nations, Isaiah 61 and 62 look at a future world of blessing and joy that is ruled by the messiah.

Main Idea - Jesus took these verses (61:1-2a) as His text when He preached in Nazareth (Luke 4:16ff.) and announced that He was ushering in the Year of Jubilee (Lev. 25). It is a time of releasing the slaves, canceling all debts, and making a new beginning. Today, those who trust Christ begin to enjoy their Jubilee; those who reject Him face judgment. (Warren Wiersbe)

As you fulfill the ministry of Christ....

1. _____ forward the Good news of Christ (vs. 1-6)

- A. Like Jesus, we are to bring the Good News to all peoples. Our message is one of liberty, comfort, and joy. God's Spirit has been given to us to accomplish this mission in the world today.
- B. Are you actively fulfilling the mission that God has given to the church?

2. _____ the blessings of the covenant (vs. 7-9)

- A. In Christ, God turns our shame into blessing and our dishonor into rejoicing and everlasting joy.
- B. Have you been able to receive the joy of the Lord that is found in Christ?

3. _____ yourself in His Righteousness (vs. 10-11)

- A. **Vs. 10** - Here is the OT picture of imputed righteousness, the essential heart of the New Covenant. When a penitent sinner recognizes he can't achieve his own righteousness by works and repents and calls on the mercy of God, the Lord covers him with His own divine righteousness by grace through his faith. (John MacArthur)
- B. Have you become clothed in the righteousness of Christ by repenting of your sins and placing your faith completely in Jesus?