

The Divine Resume of The Redeemer Isaiah 61:1-11

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I. Historical Background

- 586 B.C. Destruction of Judah by Babylon
- 539 B.C. Persia conquered Babylon
- 538 B.C. Cyrus The Great of Persia authorized that were exiled to Babylon to return to Judah.

It was during this time, Isaiah 61, a prophetic passage was written. Jews returned to Judah to rebuild the temple. This era often called the early temple period, focus on rebuilding Jerusalem, restoring religious life under leaders of Ezra and Nehemiah. This outlines a divine mission to heal the broken hearted, free the captives, and restore Zion's splendor, later directly applied by Jesus to His own Ministry (Luke 4:18,19).

II. The Lesson: The Divine Resume of The Redeemer

1. vv. 1- 2.

Outlines the prophet's (or Messiah) mission, anointed by the spirit to bring good news to the oppressed, bind the broken hearted and proclaim freedom for the captives. It declares the year of the Lord's favor and the day of God's vengeance, comforting those who mourn, a passage Jesus later quoted to define his ministry in (Luke 4:14-21).

- **Anointing Purpose:** The speaker is anointed to bring good news to the poor, bind the brokenhearted and declare freedom
- **Release of the captives:** Offers freedom to those who are captive and freedom from darkness and prisoners.

- **The year of the Lord's favor**: Often interpreted as the jubilee Year (Leviticus 25) symbolizing a time of debt cancelation and spiritual restoration. The year of jubilee.
- **The day of vengeance**: Represents God's retribution against sin and evil.
- **Comfort**: The goal is to provide comfort to all who mourn.
- **Messianic Fulfillment**: In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus reads this passage in the synagogue and declares it fulfilled in Himself.

2. v.3.

a) Ashes placed on the head was a traditional symbol of mourning, either for a death or a tragic circumstance. Crown of beauty is a single word in Hebrew. It referred to the head dress, a turban worn by a bride groom or maybe a priest. Oil was used by women as a body ointment. Lack of oil was a sign of mourning.

b) Oaks of righteousness is the imagery of emphasizing that God is at work in the event of history to work out His purpose. Oaks were the symbol of stability and strength (Oak Tree). This describes the new condition of God's people.

3. vv.4-7.

It describes a restoration period where God's people rebuild ancient ruins and long-devastated cities. Instead of shame, they will receive a double portion of inheritance, everlasting joy, and honor as priest of the Lord, while strangers work their fields. This passage highlights reversal of fortunes, moving from desolation to prosperity.

4. v.8.

God declares His love for justice, His hatred of robbery and wrong doing, and promises an everlasting covenant with his people . He

pledges to faithfully reward them, leading to their descendants being recognized among all nations as a blessed honorable people.

5. v.9.

Promises that God's restored people (descendants) will be clearly recognized and honored by other nations for their blessings, standing out as holy, prosperous people. It highlights an enduring covenant where the spiritual restoration of Israel results in international recognition making them as visibly blessed by the Lord.

6. vv.10 - 11.

A song of praise declaring deep joy in God for providing salvation and righteousness, transforming believers from shame into beauty, likened to a bridegroom or bride preparing for a wedding. It signifies a total shift from brokenness to being covered in Christ's righteousness, a gift rather than earned effort.

Has Isaiah 61 been fulfilled.

Reminds us that God's grace is not a one time event. It's a daily transformation. It's the way He lifts us out of our brokenness, restores our sense of purpose, roots us in His truth, and fills our lives with joy, and as He does this work in us, we become living testimonies of his grace.

III. CONCLUSION

Jesus, the real Messiah, announces his Resume' of a new Era of spiritual and social liberation. He presents a Resume for His ministry, shifting the focus from ancient prophecy of Isaiah 61 to present day fulfillment.