

Teaching Notes

Freedom and Justice For All

Luke 4:16-21 (NLT)

¹⁶ When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures.¹⁷ The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:¹⁸ “The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free,¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD’s favor has come.”

²⁰ He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. ²¹ Then he began to speak to them. “The Scripture you’ve just heard has been fulfilled this very day!”

Our freedom comes with a huge _____!

Psalms 146:5-9 (NLT) But joyful are those who have the God of Israel as their helper, whose hope is in the LORD their God. ⁶ He made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them. He keeps every promise forever. ⁷ He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The LORD frees the prisoners. ⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are weighed down. The LORD loves the godly. ⁹ The LORD protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked.

Psalm 72:12-14

“For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in His sight.”

PROVERBS 14:31 (NIV) 31 Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

ISAIAH 1:17 (NIV) 17 Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Praying and _____ something are both _____

HABAKKUK 1:3-4 (NIV) 3 Why do you make me [God] look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. 4 Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.

PSALM 35:10 (NIV) 10 My whole being will exclaim, “Who is like you, Lord? You rescue the poor from those too strong for them, the poor and needy from those who rob them.”

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