

2023: The Year of Redemption?

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DO you ever feel like a prisoner in this world?

The Bible teaches that we are all inherently in bondage, subject to the curse of decay and death (Rom. 8:20).

But there is good news. A biblical statute called the “law of redemption” guarantees our ultimate freedom. According to this law, when a person or piece of property has been sold into slavery to pay a debt, a near relative, or kinsman, can “redeem” that person or property by buying them back (Lev. 25:25–55). Furthermore, if a person has no kinsman to purchase his freedom, the law requires that he be released, regardless, at the Year of Jubilee (v. 54).

Prophetically, the law of redemption foreshadows God’s plan to liberate humanity from the slavery of mortal existence, the curse of death, brought about by Adam and Eve’s sin. The parallel is this: When Adam sinned, he was ‘sold,’ along with his estate, the Creation, into bondage. We, as his children and inheritors of the fallen world, are also in bondage. According to the law of redemption, a near kinsman can purchase our freedom. However, because no sinful man can pay the cost of what Adam sold, the role of humanity’s kinsman redeemer belongs solely to our ‘blood relative’ Jesus Christ, who came in the flesh, assumed our debt, and paid it with His life.

Thus, God’s plan to redeem humanity, to liberate us from death, is spelled out in the law of redemption as it pertains to the Jubilee. At a future Year of Jubilee, God will consummate the redemption that Jesus paid for by transforming our bodies from mortal to immortal:

“Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed” (1 Cor. 15:51, 52).

That the transformation of believers will occur at the Jubilee, or year of redemption, is confirmed throughout Scripture:

- Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, speaks of the “redemption” of our bodies at the Lord’s appearing (Rom. 8:19–23).
- Jesus says that when we see the signs of His coming, our “redemption” is drawing near (Luke 21:28).

- Christians are sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of “redemption” (Eph. 4:30).

It is comforting to know that Jesus, our Kinsman Redeemer, has already paid for our physical redemption. It is guaranteed! We are now just waiting for it to occur, “in the twinkling of an eye,” at the Jubilee.

So, when is the next Jubilee?

Some would say it is impossible to know, because there is no record of past Jubilees from which to calculate. However, I believe that the God of the Bible—the same God who told the ancient Jews when they would be released from Egypt and Babylon—has similarly told us when the ultimate release from captivity will occur.

The timing is given in Daniel’s Weeks Prophecy:

“From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the prince comes, there will be seven weeks” (Dan. 9:25).

According to Daniel, Messiah will come seven Sabbatical “weeks,” or one Jubilee period, after a restoration of Jerusalem.

So, let’s calculate:

The only modern restoration of Jerusalem began in June 1967, when the Jews regained control of the Holy City for the first time in two millennia. Counting seven weeks from the start of the first Sabbatical week after the restoration of Jerusalem, which is 1973, the Jubilee begins in 2022.

However, and this is important, many scholars believe that the current Sabbatical reckoning is off by one year. If they are correct, the Jubilee begins one year later in 2023.

Click [here](#) for a chart:

Something else to keep in mind is that while Jews traditionally count years from the fall, God counts years from the spring—the season of birth, new beginnings, and transformation (Ex. 12).

What is interesting is that, whether one reckons the Jubilee from fall 2022, per Jewish tradition, or from the following spring, per God’s calendar, the prophetic harvest season, the time of reaping within the Year of Jubilee, is the same: spring–summer 2023.

With our Jubilee calculation in view, it is remarkable to consider how the current world order—the social, political, and economic structure we reside in—appears to be crumbling by the day. Moreover, the Creation itself, by quakes, extreme weather, and mass animal die-offs, seems to be “groaning” in

anticipation of something climactic about to occur (Rom. 8:22). Could all of this be a sign that the release from our temporal—earthly ‘prison’ is imminent?

It could.

Therefore, now is the time to guarantee your own release. The price has already been paid by our Kinsman Redeemer, Jesus. To obtain the freedom He has purchased, however, one must know Him personally. To know Jesus, simply call on His name: Ask Him to be your Lord and Savior. Believe that He is the Son of God who died for your sins and was raised from the dead, and you will be set free at the year of redemption.

NOTES:

1. Additional Scriptures connecting the Jubilee to the resurrection—rapture:

- The Jubilee is when one’s possessions are restored (Lev. 25:13). The Church is God’s “special possession” (1 Pet. 2:9; Eph. 1:14).
- The Jubilee, or 50th year, is patterned after Pentecost, the 50th day (Lev. 23:15, 15; 25:8–10). Since Pentecost is about the “harvest” of the Church (Acts 2), so is the Jubilee.
- The Jubilee precedes God’s wrath (Isa. 61:1, 2; 63:4). The Church is raptured before God’s wrath (1 Thess. 4:13–18; 5:1–9).
- The Jubilee is when spiritual blindness is lifted (Luke 4:18). Israel’s blindness concerning Messiah Jesus will begin to be lifted when the full number of Gentiles comes in at the Rapture (Rom. 11:25; Rev. 7:1–8).
- The Gentile Ruth (Church) is “redeemed” by marriage (Rapture) to a Jewish Kinsman (Jesus) (Ruth 4).

2. The ultimate Jubilee will mark three major milestones: the end of the Church Age; the end of roughly 6,000 years under Satan’s influence; and the beginning of the Day of the Lord. At this time, the “ruler of this age,” the devil, will be cast down to earth to take up residence in a man called the “lawless one,” or antichrist (Rev. 12:7–9; 2 Cor. 4:4; 2 Thess. 2:4). Simultaneously, earth will be restored to its original Owner, God, who will then complete the redemption process for Israel and others by allowing a period of Tribulation designed to bring them to faith (Lev. 25:23; Jer. 30:7; Zech. 13:9).

3. God reveals the time of liberation: The ancient Hebrews were told that they would be liberated from Egypt, a type of the world, after 400 years (Gen. 15:13). The Jews were told that they would be liberated from Babylon, a type of the world, after 70 years (Jer. 29:10). Daniel was told that Messiah would come to liberate the Jews from sin and death after “seven weeks and sixty-two weeks” (Dan. 9:24–27). The lesson: God may allow His people to endure a period of waiting or captivity, but He always tells them when it will end, so they are not left hopeless (Jer. 29:11 KJV).

4. The standard interpretation of Daniel’s “seven weeks” is that they refer to the time it took to rebuild Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile, from 457 BC to 408 BC. However, because there is no Scripture or ancient record to confirm this timeline, commentators admit that it is essentially a guess: “The city walls and internal buildings of Jerusalem may have taken fifty years to erect—we simply cannot tell” (Pulpit Commentary, Dan. 9:25). Another problem with the standard interpretation of the seven weeks pertains to the math: Since Daniel’s “weeks” correspond to the fixed Sabbatical cycle, the “seven weeks” must correspond to the fixed Jubilee cycle. Counting forward from the Jubilee period established by the standard interpretation (457 BC to 408 BC), the Jubilee nearest the present time would be 2043 AD. The problem with this date is that it falls well beyond the plausible endpoint of other eschatological timelines (Matt. 24:32–34; Hos. 6:2; 2 Pet. 3:8–10). In contrast, when we assign the seven weeks to Messiah’s second appearance, and count from the modern rebuilding of Jerusalem in 1967, the nearest Jubilee is 2022–23, a date that corresponds with other eschatological timelines.

5. Details on the two recognized Sabbatical chronologies (see pages 2–8):

<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/d0ade222e9914befb461fd3bfff13f887/The%20Prophetic%20Year%202022%20-%20Looking%20Back%20Looking%20Forward%20and%20Looking%20Up.pdf>

6. More prophetic timelines supporting a 2022–23 Jubilee:

<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/41a1a0c26b2d4d5283776f0753e8bcbe/PROPHETIC%20TIMELINE%20CHART%202023.pdf>

<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/d9d5e868e4bb48139e5a8de0fc8f71ed/Daniels%2069%20Weeks%20and%20Messiahs%20Two%20Appearances%20rev%20C.pdf>

<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/ddaa5e9422e8469b84f4ca9b814c4e00/Cow%20Signs%20and%20the%20Looming%20Biblical%20Famine.pdf>

<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/2b79181f3a184f348586bb555dd5034d/The%20Daniel%2012%20Prophecy%20and%202023%20rev%20a.pdf>

7. Despite God’s command to count years from the “first month,” Nisan (Ex. 12:1, 2), the deep-rooted Jewish tradition of counting years from the “seventh month,” Tishrei, means Sabbatical and Jubilees are generally

advertised as beginning in the fall. While it is true that the seventh month is pivotal, and a likely time for Tribulation-related events, it is Nisan, according to the Creator of the calendar, that marks the start of the year for the purpose of counting. A simple proof that God counts Sabbatical years from spring is found in Leviticus. Speaking to the prohibition on farming during the Sabbatical year, the Lord says, "You shall sow in the eighth year, and eat old produce until the ninth year; until its produce comes in, you shall eat of the old harvest" (Lev. 25:22). Notice the crop is sown (during the fall) in the "eighth year," and its harvest comes in during the "ninth year," indicating a spring beginning to the year. If the year began in the fall, the crops sown at that time would be harvested four months later in spring of the same year. For more on why years are counted from Nisan, see this brief study:

https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user35306783/documents/6f0d476832da43a18e0bd26d197703b8/WHY_GOD_COUNTS_YEARS_FROM_THE_SPRING_-_AND_WHY_IT_MATTERS.pdf