

# The Eternal Jubilee

In **Leviticus Chapter 25**, we read about a very unique plan God placed in the Old Testament Law called The Year of Jubilee. This Year of Jubilee occurred every 50 years and served as an economic and social reset for the people of God, Israel. God instituted the Year of Jubilee to provide His people with a time of rest, restoration, renewal, and liberation. Let's take a closer look at the Biblical description of the Year of Jubilee.

God set the time description of The Year of Jubilee in **Leviticus 25:8-9**. It was to occur every 50 years. The Year of Jubilee would provide an agricultural rest for the land. No sowing, reaping, or pruning would take place during the Year of Jubilee. The people were to live off the abundance stored from the previous year and what the land would naturally give them. (**Leviticus 25:10-12**) The people were encouraged to return to their families and strengthen their ancestral ties.

The Year of Jubilee also included the restoration of land that was sold due to debt. This land that was sold because of debt was returned to its original family, preventing permanent land loss and poverty. (**Leviticus 25:13, 23-24**) This prevented families from becoming permanently landless and held in check the accumulation of vast estates by the rich. This served as a reminder that God owns all the land, and we are just sojourners here temporarily.

The Year of Jubilee also included debt forgiveness. Debts were canceled to offer a “**clean slate**” and a fresh start for all those who were in debt. (**Leviticus 25:35-38**) The Year of Jubilee also brought release of slaves and bonded labor. Any Israelite who had sold themselves into servitude because of debt was to be set free. (**Leviticus 25:39-41**) This “**proclamation of liberty**” allowed them to return to their families and to their ancestral lands.

From this description, we can conclude that The Year of Jubilee provided a fresh start. It also kept in check economic injustices preventing extreme reoccurring poverty and restricting the accumulation of extreme wealth. The Year of Jubilee maintained the integrity of family land holdings. This reminded the people that God owns the land and that we are just sojourners. The Year of Jubilee was also called “***the acceptable year of the Lord***”. (**Isaiah 61:1-2**)

As we move into the New Testament, we read how Jesus made it clear that He had **NOT** come to destroy the Law, but to **FULFILL** the Law. (**Matthew 5:17**) Jesus also said “***The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand...***” (**Mark 1:15**)

After being tempted 40 days in the wilderness, Jesus began to teach in the synagogues. (**Luke 4:14-15**) Jesus was handed the Book of Isaiah.

He opened the Book and began to read **Isaiah 61:1-2. (Luke 4:18-21)** After reading these verses, He closed the book and said this: ***“This day is this Scripture fulfilled.”*** By making this declaration, Jesus identified Himself to be the fulfillment of the Year of Jubilee.

**Just** as the Year of Jubilee freed physical slaves, Jesus provides freedom from the slavery of sin and death. **(John 8:31-32, Romans 6:14, 8:2, Galatians 5:1, 1 Corinthians 15:56-57, John 11:25-26)**

**Just** as the Year of Jubilee cancelled financial debt, Jesus paid our debt of sin through His death on the cross. **(Colossians 2:13-14, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:24, Romans 6:23)**

**Just** as the Year of Jubilee returned land to its original owners, Jesus restores our spiritual inheritance. Jesus restores our heavenly home. **(John 14:2-3, Hebrews 11:16, 2 Corinthians 5:1, 1 Peter 1: 3-4, 2 John 2:25)**

**Just** as the Year of Jubilee offered rest, Jesus offers eternal spiritual rest. **(Matthew 11:28-29, John 14:27, Acts 3:19)**

Jesus made it very clear that He was ushering in a spiritual era of God’s favor. The Year of Jubilee was no longer just a physical calendar year, but a continuous experience.

This experience of release, restoration, rest, and peace can be possessed by all those who choose to believe and obey the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. **(Acts 2:37-41)** When we are born again, we become a new creature and all things become new. **(2 Corinthians 5:17)**

## Conclusion

Jesus officially inaugurated Himself as the **“bringer of jubilee”** by reading **Isaiah 61:1-2** in the synagogue. Jesus proclaimed that He was anointed to bring good news to the poor, to bring liberty to the captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, and to preach the year of the Lord’s favor.

After reading this, Jesus stated ***“This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears.”*** This statement identified himself to be the long-awaited Messiah who brings the true jubilee. Jesus shifts the jubilee from a periodic physical economic event to a continuous spiritual reality available to all through Him.

When we believe and obey the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, we receive the ultimate **“reset”**. We become a new creature. All things become new. We get **FOREVER** in our lives. We become partakers of the eternal jubilee.

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