



Why He Came: "To Proclaim Freedom for the Prisoners and Release the Oppressed"

Pastor Greg Wendschlag December 17, 2023

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." Luke 4:18-21

We are engaged in a spiritual war. The outcome is certain.
The casualties of this war are what hang in the balance.
Who will side with God and live? Who will side with Satan and die?

Who are the prisoners and who are the oppressed?

- Prisoner: a prisoner of war or captive in exile.
- Oppressed: those who are weak or have a crushed spirit.
- Freedom: release, pardon to liberty.

What a cunning deception it is to convince oppressed prisoners that they are not imprisoned and oppressed; therefore, having no need for freedom!

Daniel and the Babylonian Captivity

Babylonian assimilation tactics:

- Change their language.
- Change their perspective.
- Change their culture and tastes.
- Change their identity.

Daniel's resistance to assimilation:

- Know the Word of God.
- Hold fast and obey the truth of God's Word.
- Resist the allure of attractive entrapment.
- Hold on to your true identity.

*One can be in prison but not live like a prisoner. One can be in prison but not have a crushed spirit.
He whom the Son sets free is free indeed!*