

A RELEASE FOR ANOINTING, THE ANNOUNCEMENT

Text: Luke 4:18, (see Isaiah 61: 1-4)

INTRO: The time had come for those exiled from the promises of God to move into them. Years of darkness would now suddenly give way to a new dawning of the Son. While the religious institutions were thriving, they were not bringing freedom, in fact they had produced more burden for all but the religious elite. The passages above had been read frequently no doubt, but they brought no change. There is a timing thing with God. What a marvelous thing it is when suddenly God says, "IT IS TIME".....*and it is.*

<p><i>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, Luke 4:18 nasb</i></p>	<p><i>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has appointed me to preach Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the downtrodden will be freed from their oppressors, Luke 4:18</i></p>
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A NEW MESSENGER

Jesus is speaking as the Anointed One; the Messiah, the Christ. He announces that He is here to preach to the destitute, to mend broken hearts, to release captives, to bring sight, and to bring liberty. In other words sin does the opposite. It gives no message of hope for the "poor", it breaks hearts, it heaps captivity, it blinds, and produces bondage. The problem is magnified when we become so accustomed to hearing the "words of God" without having the anointing of the Spirit on those words. Now the "anointed one" is doing the speaking. The word anointing is the root of the word Christ. He is the anointed Savior. How desperately we need the anointing on our words, our actions, and even our thoughts. I need to ask you, where is your hope coming from, what is the foundation of those things on which you rely? Are you sourced by those things which are anointed? Too often the world system bleeds into the truth of revelation, thereby making it "a little leaven" in the bread of life. That won't work. You need to be hearing from one source, the Father. Jesus made it plain that He was sourced by one thing alone....His Father. Can I get by with less? Can you? The message without the anointing of the messenger may be more dangerous than no message at all. Actually, Jesus is not just delivering a message, He is preaching. Naves topical Bible definition is: *The act of exhorting, prophesying, reproofing, teaching*. Preaching is not always just one thing, it must include all that God, Himself might feel in His heart.

THE MOMENT - Luke 4:19

A. This Approved Time: I see over and over again the importance in God's timing. Jesus has just read an old message, hundreds of years old, but suddenly....without their knowledge, without their understanding, without their believing (as we see in later verses), this old message has just come to life... because this isn't just any time, any day any year, this is the "acceptable year of the Lord". It seems clear that Christ is proclaiming a year of jubilee, which was the 50th year after 7 periods of 7 years in Jewish history. It is found in the 25th chapter of Leviticus. Everything that Jesus proclaimed in this passage is covered in the jubilee that God had ordained for His people, which to our knowledge had probably not taken place. Now it is different, Jesus has spoken and God's time had arrived. This is the acceptable or rather "approved" year of the Lord. God had not been sleeping, the people had. Now it was God's time to act, His purpose would be fulfilled. I wish that it was an automatic for everyone, it is NOT. Take a look at what happened. Jesus

announced the heart of God, but really, really now, look at verses following, Luke 4: 22-30. You're going to see a mind-set, an attitude problem. They have their own truth and they just can't bend their truth to the shape of His truth. It is interesting that He stops and omits the next line from Isaiah, which is "and the day of vengeance of God..." . There are other options for those that do not want the approval of God. What if this year is the year of one or the other for a nation, a people, a church, *approval or vengeance?*

B. Beginning NOW: Luke 4:21 Then he started in, "*You've just heard Scripture make history. It came true just now in this place.*" (*Message*). I cannot get into human vocabulary the meaning of this in my heart. It is without question overwhelming at times to me. What if this move of God at this moment, begins this very day? **Fulfilled** really means this is accomplished as well as put in motion. In the original languages this means the following: play-ro'-o; that is, (literally) to cram (a net), level up (a hollow), or (figuratively) to furnish (influence), satisfy, execute (an office), finish (a period or task), verify (or coincide with a prediction), etc.: - accomplish, (be) complete, end, expire, fill (up), fulfil, (be, make) full, perfect supply. Can you imagine the excitement surrounding this statement? Every thing you have waited all this time for is come to this moment in time. Wow!! They should be breaking the place apart, jumping up and down, tearing down the goal posts... but, well, let's look at:

THE MOOD - Luke 4: 20, 22-24

The Son of God, Son of Man, hands the book back to the "minister or attendant". All the eyes in the place are fixed, focused, and gazing on Him. ALL the eyes. They are fastened, staring absolutely amazed at the incredible gentleness, kindness and grace with which He delivered this message. They are all going to get in on this thing right now aren't they? They are going to mob Him now for this deliverance... but no, they begin to doubt, "Isn't this Joseph's son?", and Jesus saw through it. He began to feel the resistance immediately. This deliverance thing, this making things right... it could have a really rough effect on what I WANT!! Besides that, I've known this fellow, He's not the one to pull this off. A lot of people have tried to straighten out things before, this isn't going to be any different. Jesus knew their faith was weakened by their desire to test Him and see if the miracles He did in Capernaum could be done NOW. Then Jesus starts putting their inward thoughts back at them. He talks of how few received the miracles of Elijah (one widow), how few received the miracles of Elisha (one leper) and He never once questioned their faith. All He really is saying is how very few get this revelation, and God comes to the very few who are seeking revelation. You know what happens next? They want and they try to kill Him. A moment ago He was gracious and amazing, now He is saying, they are not getting it. They don't like that. They always know better. Someone has told them something they wanted to hear for years. They know what they want to hear, and they want what He offers, but they want it on their terms. Deliverance to them, is a different result than what Jesus has in mind. They wanted Him to give them their kind of control, power, independence, and "my freedom" not your freedom Jesus was their cry.

Reflections and Application

1. Who do I give a lot of credibility to when I need advice? Why?
2. Do I know the source of their wisdom?
3. What is His message to my life... and am I listening but not hearing?
4. Do I recognize His timing for fulfillment of His promises, or have I rushed or dragged behind?
5. Am I believing that His promises may work for some, but can't work for me? Why?