

Jubilee and the Joy of Salvation

Jubilee and joy are featured frequently in Luke’s gospel. People are constantly rejoicing. Why? Because they encountered Jesus and salvation. Trace the themes of jubilee and joy in the gospel of Luke with us. Together we’ll study Jesus’ parables and the famous story of Zacchaeus to recognize the importance of these themes, how they connect to and continue the tradition of the Old Testament’s Year of Jubilee, and what this means for how we faithfully respond to our own encounters with Jesus and salvation today.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we’ll cover in the episode.

- What was the meaning and purpose of “the year of Jubilee” in the Old Testament?
- What do you know about the story of Zacchaeus?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Jubilee and the Joy of Salvation](#)

READ [Luke 5:33-35](#), [Luke 15](#), [Luke 19:1-9](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- While reflecting on Jesus’ pronouncement of [Isaiah 61](#) in the synagogue in Nazareth, recorded in [Luke 4:18-19](#), host Darrell Delaney made the connection that “the year of the Lord’s favor is the Year of Jubilee,” saying that Jesus is now doing in the spirit realm what was supposed to be done on earth through the Year of Jubilee in the Old Testament. What is the significance of the connection between Jesus’ work in the New Testament and the spiritual practices of the Old Testament?
- What struck you most as Darrell and host Scott Hoeszee studied and discussed the parables Jesus told in Luke 15? Was it the lavish rejoicing? Or that, as Scott said, “Jesus says God counts by ones”?
- In segment 2, Scott said, “When salvation happens, joy happens; and the source of that joy is the grace of God.” How well do you think Christians in the church today reflect that joy in response to salvation?
- As Scott shares Dean Deppe’s thoughts on the story of Zacchaeus, he said, “He got saved up in the tree. That was the root of his salvation...What he did later was the fruit of his salvation. As soon as we are told that Zacchaeus *rejoiced* to see Jesus, in Luke, that is a clear signal: Ha, he is saved; he got saved right there.” What does that distinction—between the moment of Zacchaeus’ salvation and the fruit of his salvation—mean to you?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Leviticus 25](#), [Psalm 24](#), [Isaiah 61](#), [Nehemiah 8:10](#), [Psalm 51:1-12](#)

CONCLUSION

In the gospel of Luke, there is a tight correlation between celebration, rejoicing, and salvation events, where the lost are found. Darrell and Scott draw the connection between the salvation and rejoicing encounters with Jesus in Luke and the Old Testament command for restoration in the Year of Jubilee. Spend time considering the three questions Scott and Darrell presented at the end of the episode:

1. Do people with spiritual needs find the church magnetic like Jesus was?
2. When you look at yourself in a spiritual mirror, what do you see reflected back at you: a joyful disciple of Jesus or a pharisee trying to be so careful and serious that you're missing the joy of salvation?
3. Are you joyful over your own salvation and sharing your testimony as often as possible?

Share your responses or reactions to those questions with God in prayer. Ask for the Holy Spirit to fill you with the joy of the Lord and help you see and seize increased opportunities for rejoicing in the Lord.

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