

Study 107: Isaiah, Part 63

Isaiah 61

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted [**Ps 147:3**],
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners [or LXX: *the blind*],

² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
[quoted by Jesus: **Luke 4:16-21**. This is a proclamation of the year of Jubilee **Lev 25:10**; Ezk 46:17; Jer 34:8. So, why did Jesus stop here, in the midst of the verse? This was at the very beginning of His earthly ministry, so the judgment was not yet being announced. At the end of those 3½ years, it would be.]

and the day of vengeance of our God,

[**Luke 21:22; Matt 24:21; 2 Thess 1:8** (note the whole context). Some allege that because He stopped in the middle of the verse, it indicates that the judgment will not take place for millennia.]

to comfort all who mourn,

³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—

to bestow on them a crown of beauty

instead of ashes,

the oil of joy

instead of mourning,

and a garment of praise

instead of a spirit of despair.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,

a planting of the Lord

for the display of his splendor.

⁴ They will rebuild the ancient ruins

and restore the places long devastated;

they will renew the ruined cities

that have been devastated for generations.

⁵ Strangers will shepherd your flocks;

foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.

⁶ And **you will be called priests of the Lord,**

you will be named **ministers of our God.**

[**Ex 19:6; Gal 6:16; 1 Pet 2:9; Rev 1:6**]

You will feed on the wealth of nations,

and in their riches you will boast.