

Seeking Justice

1

Living in God's Favor Luke 4:14-30

ref.ly/Lk4;niv



2

Luke 4:14-30

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

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¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim 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."

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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."

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²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

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²⁴ “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

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²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

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Isaiah 61

A message of hope for Israelites in exile

- Horrible destruction
- Then 70 years as captives

Prophets spoke of “the year of the LORD’s favor”

9

The Year of the LORD

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,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor

and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
and provide for those who grieve in Zion—

Isaiah 61:1-3a

10

Why the anger at Jesus?

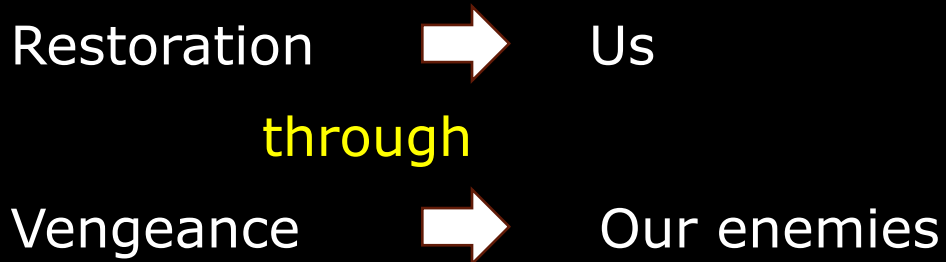
- He skipped vengeance on their enemies
- His restoration included (emphasized?) their enemies

11

The Big Idea
Jesus brought
a Kingdom of restoration
including grace for their enemies

12

At the same time



13

Now

Restoration → Us

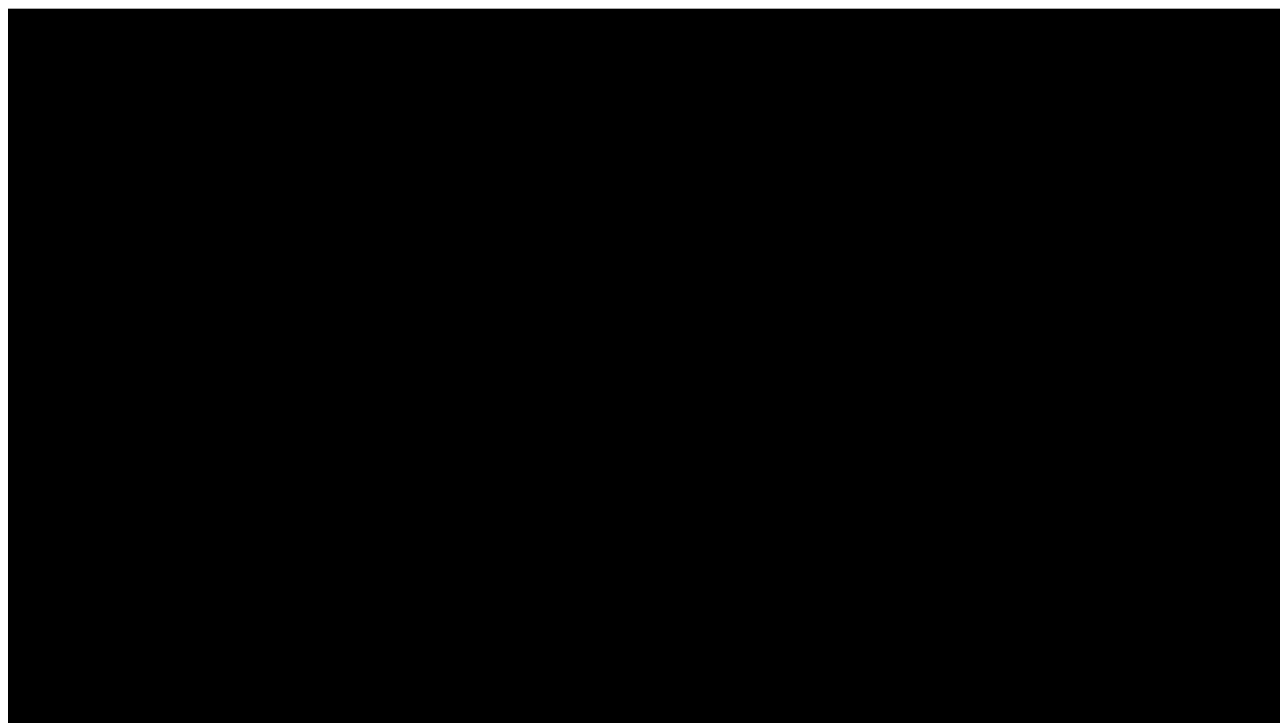
Future

Vengeance → Our enemies

Judgment will come
on all who refuse God's grace...

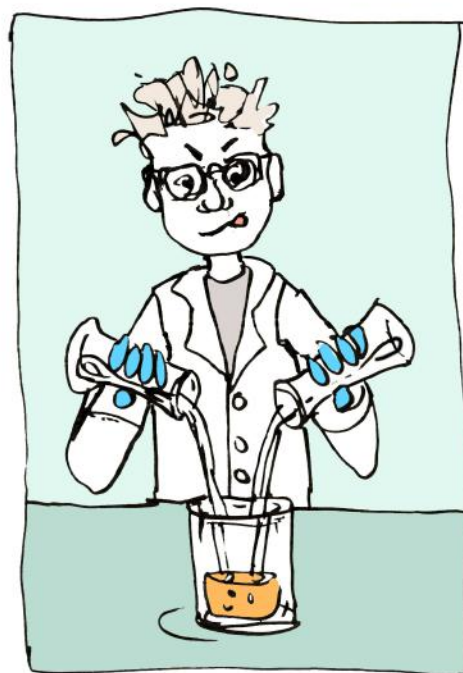
- for themselves
- or their enemies

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**Chemicals inherently
react in certain ways**



16

**Chemicals inherently
react in certain ways**

**The non reaction reveals
the nature of the chemicals**



17

**Chemicals inherently
react in certain ways**

**The reaction reveals
the nature of the chemicals**

**Jesus' restoring, life-giving
nature is unstoppable for all!**

**How we respond to our enemies
reveals our true nature**



18

The Big Idea
Jesus brought
a Kingdom of restoration
including grace for their enemies

19

Application

Rejoice in the grace of Jesus for us!

- "He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found"
- For trouble THAT WE DESERVE
- Truly, but not yet fully

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Application

Enact the grace of Jesus **for all!**

- The Good Samaritan
- Jesus' life:
 - Unstoppably feeding the hungry, healing the sick and demon oppressed
 - Forgiving His enemies, blessing those who cursed Him, reaching out to those who attacked Him
- The Spirit of the LORD is upon us...

21

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim the 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,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
Luke 4:18-19*

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