

**Strengthening the Core  
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**Preparing for the Year of Jubilee**

**Leviticus 25/Luke 4**

I have been battling with an issue with my back for the last three months since back in October. My wife went to India to preach leaving me all alone for almost two weeks. In an effort to pass the time until she returned I worked 15 hours a day and then played golf to relax. As a new golfer I got carried away and overdid it. It resulted in me damaging vertebrae and nerves in my back. It resulted in extreme pain down into my left leg and foot.

Tuesday before flying here I saw my doctor. After a careful review of my progress or lack thereof she said, "You have to Strengthen Your Core, beyond the overplay of golf!" So, beyond my need to watch my activity was the need to strengthen my core so that that I could be physically ready for whatever activity that was planned. There is divine activity that requires you to Strengthen Your Core by *Preparing for Jubilee*.

**1. Rest for the soil**

For the Israelites it meant that the most valuable possession, their core, was to take some time to rest. They didn't plant and only harvested what grew on its own.

For some of you your soil is exhausted and your fruit will wither if you don't rest.

Even when the soil was "resting" there was enough to feed them and the poor.

The country boy in me knows what happens after the soil gets rest.

***Practical help for leaders: Matt. 11:28 Come to me all that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.....***

Rest for your soil is not an excuse for doing nothing, it is the time when you stop trusting in your own efforts and trust His Spirit to breathe on what you are doing.

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### 2. Restoration of the land

For all who had sold their land this was the time of return. The land was never to be sold outside of the tribe but God allowed them to do so when in extreme poverty only!

Usually when we talk about Jubilee it is so man centered that we can't see God's will in all of this. We miss His priorities. We just say I'm getting back everything the devil stole from me but the devil never stole their land. They sold it because of the pressure they were under.

God has a plan to restore everything that you gave up under pressure

Leaders lose a lot under pressure, they sell their joy, their peace and their sanity but in the year of Jubilee what you sold under pressure is returned!

***Practical Help: Isaiah 58:12 Restorer of streets.....***

This year it will be critical that you rise up in faith in order to reclaim the attributes of being a Christian. Walking in peace, joy and love!

### 3. Release of Men

If we have missed anything in our American interpretation of scripture this is one of the greatest misinterpretations. The year of Jubilee was not designed so that those who had could get more. It was not for the mainstream Israelite. It was for the marginalized Israelite.

If we are going to claim Jubilee for the church we must recognize that it is not fundamentally a celebration to bless the mainstream believer but the marginalized person who has sold themselves into slavery.

Even the use of the word "increase" reveals how blessed we are.

The primary reason the church in America is not experiencing growth is because we have Jubilee for us!

Jubilee is designed to change our attitude toward the person who is backslidden or has never trusted Christ!

***Practical Help: Matthew 25:32-37 you did it unto me.....***

Full revision of the vision is required when Jubilee comes.

How much grain are we leaving for the poor?

How much impact are we making on the marginalized?

How much is heaven impacted by the work that we do?