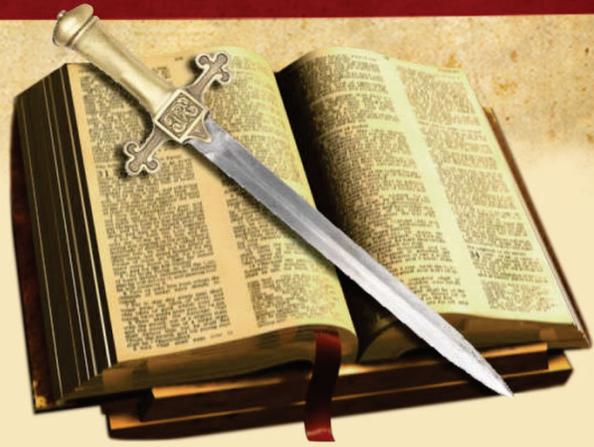


Setting Your Heart

on the

Kingdom



LEVITICUS

Jubilee! Foretaste of the Kingdom

(The Principle of Restoration)

Leviticus 25:8-17

The ram's horn sounded, piercing the stillness of the early morning desert air. Almost at once, waves of joyous shouts arose across the camp of Israel proclaiming, "Jubilee! Jubilee!" Children ran from tent to tent; men and women rejoiced in celebration. ***Many wept in overwhelming gratitude to God for His gracious plan of restoration. It was Jubilee!*** They had waited forty-nine years, and now the fiftieth year had finally come. It was Jubilee!

A scene like this occurred nearly 3,500 years ago during that glorious festival of Jubilee. Celebrated on the great Day of Atonement, the stains of the past sins of Israel were removed and a "clean slate" was given for the next year. In addition to this "spiritual" new beginning, the Year of Jubilee meant that any Hebrew who suffered from poverty and was forced to sell his inheritance would have his property restored. Furthermore, if a man had to sell himself or his family as indentured servants due to personal misfortune, both he and his family would be freed from their slavery. God even rejuvenated the land by commanding that it must remain fallow for an additional year. What a glorious and profound restoration! No wonder the people rejoiced with song and festive celebration... even with tears. ***The Lord was releasing both His people and their land from bondage!***

God's purpose from the beginning of time was to restore order to a planet corrupted by sin and the devil (Rom. 8:19-21). ***The historical "Year of Jubilee" was a drama played out in human experience foretelling the effect of God's Kingdom (His righteous rule) on His people and on the earth.*** Though you may have sold yourself to sin or even lost your inheritance as a child of God, the King has come to set you free. You don't have to wait for a "fiftieth" year to receive back what you've lost. Take hold, today, of your heritage in Christ! Rejoice, beloved of the Lord...even with shouts and with weeping! ***When God's Kingdom comes into your heart, you have Jubilee. His Kingdom releases you from all bondage and restores you to your divine destiny in Him.***

Next Week: The Kingdom of God in Numbers... Leadership, a Lonely and Narrow Path

