

Isaiah 61:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

Analysis

The Servant's mission to 'proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God' combines mercy (acceptable year - Jubilee release) with judgment (vengeance). Jesus quoted this in Luke 4:19 but stopped mid-verse - reading only 'acceptable year,' not 'day of vengeance,' because His first advent brings grace, His second brings judgment. This establishes two comings separated by church age.

Historical Context

The Jubilee year (Leviticus 25) released debts and slaves every 50 years, typifying Christ's redemption. But complete fulfillment includes judgment on God's enemies. Jesus' deliberate omission of vengeance language showed His first-coming purpose was salvation, not judgment (John 3:17).

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does understanding Christ's two comings (first for salvation, second for judgment) affect your evangelism urgency?
2. What does it mean that you live in the 'acceptable year of the LORD' - the age of grace before vengeance comes?

Interlinear Text

לְקַרֵּא	שָׁנַת	רְצוֹן	לִיהוָה	וּיּוֹם	נִקְמָה
To proclaim	year	the acceptable	of the LORD	and the day	of vengeance
H7121	H8141	H7522	H3068	H3117	H5359
לֵאלֹהֵינוּ	לְנַחֵם	כָּל	אֲבֵלִים:		
of our God	to comfort	H3605	all that mourn		
H430	H5162		H57		

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 5:4 (Parallel theme): Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Isaiah 34:8 (References Lord): For it is the day of the LORD'S vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.

Isaiah 57:18 (Parallel theme): I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners.

Jeremiah 31:13 (Parallel theme): Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

Luke 4:19 (References Lord): To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 2:16 (Parallel theme): Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

Isaiah 35:4 (References God): Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.

Isaiah 66:14 (References Lord): And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.

Isaiah 25:8 (References God): He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.

Isaiah 49:8 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;