



LEVITICUS 25:8-22

Liberty, family and property

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PART 3



LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

The Year of Jubilee

8 'And you shall count seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years; and the time of the seven sabbaths of years shall be to you forty-nine years.

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LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

9 Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement, you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

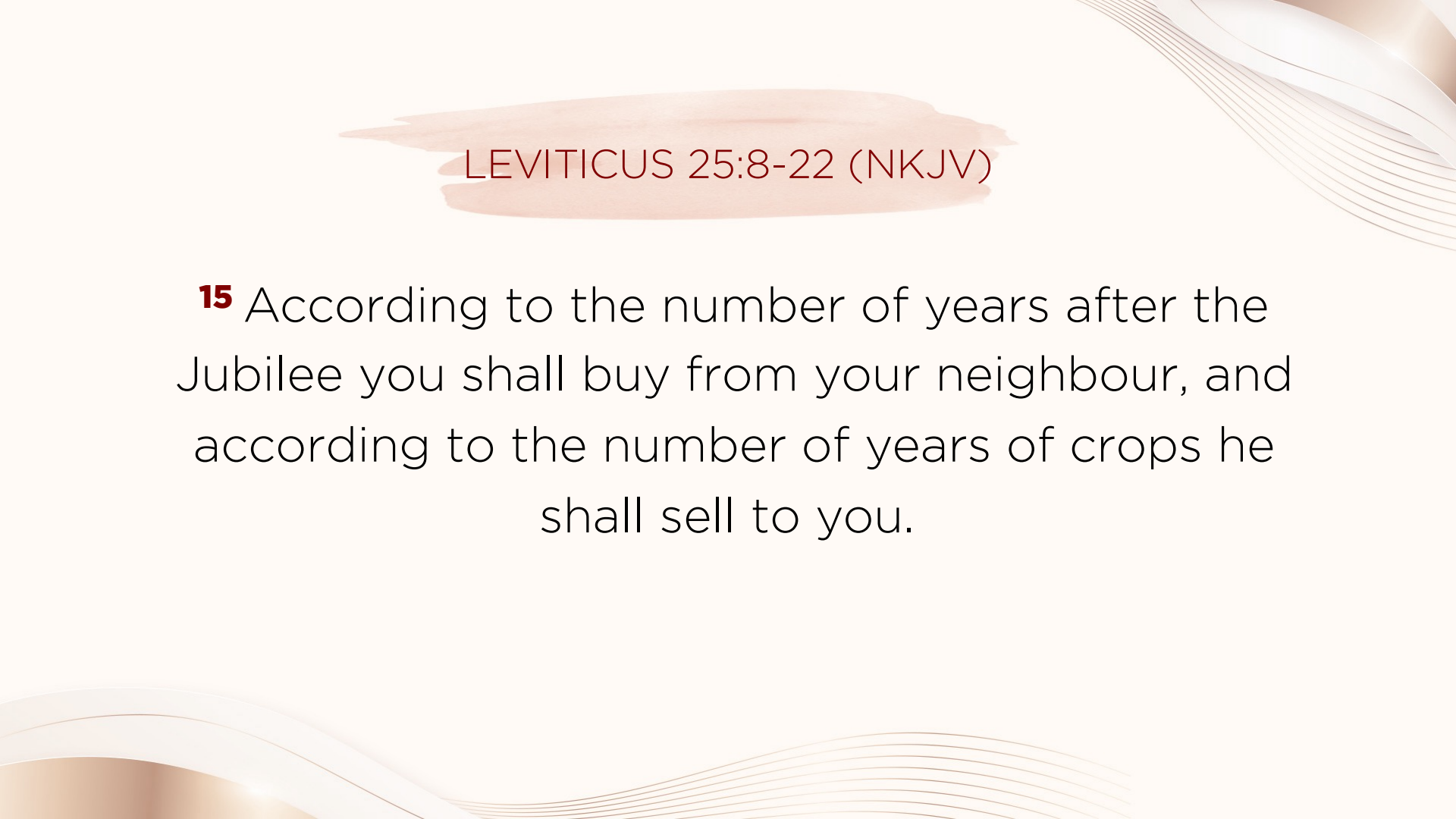
¹⁰And you shall **consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants.** It shall be a Jubilee for you; and **each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

11 That **fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you**; in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of its own accord, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine. **12** For it is the Jubilee; it shall be holy to you; **you shall eat its produce from the field.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

13 'In this Year of Jubilee, **each of you shall return to his possession.** **14** And if you sell anything to your neighbour or buy from your neighbour's hand, you shall not oppress one another.

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LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

15 According to the number of years after the Jubilee you shall buy from your neighbour, and according to the number of years of crops he shall sell to you.

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

16 According to the multitude of years you shall increase its price, and according to the fewer number of years you shall diminish its price; for he sells to you according to the number of the years of the crops. **17 Therefore you shall not oppress one another, but you shall fear your God; for I am the LORD your God.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

¹⁸ 'So you shall **observe My statutes and keep My judgments, and perform them**; and you will dwell in the land in safety. ¹⁹ **Then the land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill, and dwell there in safety.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

20 ‘And if you say, “What shall we eat in the seventh year, since we shall not sow nor gather in our produce?” **21** Then **I will command My blessing on you in the sixth year, and it will bring forth produce enough for three years.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

22 And you shall **sow in the eighth year, and eat old produce until the ninth year; until its produce comes in, you shall eat of the old harvest.**

Introduction

a) Fundamental values of life

- **First value is freedom or liberty**
 - **freedom of speech and belief**
 - **freedom from fear and want**
 - **freedom from slavery**

Introduction

a) Fundamental values of life

- **Second value is the right to marriage and the formation of family.**
- **Third value is the right to own property.**

Introduction

a) Fundamental values of life

- Biblical Jubilee covers these three values of liberty, family and property, and more.**

Introduction

b) Proclamation of Jubilee

- The fundamental values of liberty, family and property.**

LEVITICUS 25:9-10 (NKJV)

9 Then you shall **cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound** on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement, you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.

LEVITICUS 25:9-10 (NKJV)

¹⁰And you shall **consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants.** It shall be a Jubilee for you; and **each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.**

Main Points

- 1. Liberty:** reaffirming our freedom;
releasing and resetting
- 2. Family:** returning to family;
restoring relationships
- 3. Property:** returning to possession;
reclaiming your rightful place



1. Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- **context of Leviticus 25 is the proclamation of liberty for those in slavery because of debts**
- **work and debt are inter-related**
- **condemn the family to perpetual poverty for generations**



1. Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- **create social inequality in society**

- * **Leviticus 25:35-38**

- **God cares for the poor.**

- **God is concerned about social justice and the needy poor in our society.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Other forms of slavery and bondage

- victims of human trafficking and the heartlessness of bonded service**
- foreign domestic helpers contracted to serve**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- ❖ **Slavery and bondage created by debts and principle of remission**
- **God's social economic principles set out in Leviticus 25 were never fully implemented.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- ❖ **Slavery and bondage created by debts and principle of remission**
- **partial implementation during the rebuilding of Jerusalem under the leadership of Ezra and Nehemiah**
- **Nehemiah 5:1-12**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- ❖ **Slavery and bondage created by debts and principle of remission**
- **King Zedekiah made a covenant with all the people who were at Jerusalem to proclaim liberty to slaves and bonded servants**
- **first acted but subsequently changed their mind**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Slavery and bondage created by debts and principle of remission**

- **Jeremiah 34:8-22**
- **difficult to practise the Levitical code and difficult to act on Jubilee principles**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Slavery and bondage created by debts and principle of remission**

- **He prefers those who worship Him,
to break the yoke of slavery
(*Isaiah 58:6-12*)**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- ❖ **Jubilee principles applied here, there and everywhere! Over-extending?**
- **Jubilee principles in Leviticus 25 are of themselves quite wide.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **God-centric and sacred**

- **world celebrates jubilees of all kinds**
- **Biblical Jubilee is not just like one of these many Jubilee celebrations.**
- **Leviticus 25 Jubilee is God-centric.**
- **has a spiritual dimension**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **God-centric and sacred**

- **instituted by God**
- **Make it sacred.**
- **based on the fear of God and the obedience of His statutes and judgment**

LEVITICUS 25:10,12, 17 (NKJV)

- 10** And you shall **consecrate the fiftieth year,**
12 For it is the Jubilee; **it shall be holy to you;**
you shall eat its produce from the field.

LEVITICUS 25:18 (NKJV)

17 Therefore you shall not oppress one another, but **you shall fear your God; for I am the LORD your God.** **18** 'So you shall **observe My statutes and keep My judgments, and perform them**; and you will dwell in the land in safety.



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Economic and social aspects

- **Mainly three aspects of human society, namely, environmental, economic and social.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Economic and social aspects

- Firstly, environmental aspect:
the earth**
- personified as someone that should
be given rest**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Economic and social aspects

- Secondly, economic aspects in terms of agriculture, finance and commercial transactions.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Economic and social aspects

- Thirdly, social aspects of human society.**

micro-level: human relationships

➤ **family**

➤ **clan**

➤ **master-servant**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Economic and social aspects

macro-level :

- social equality**
- social responsibility**
- compassion for fellowman**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Link between Isaiah 61:1-3 and
Leviticus 25**

- **God applied the Leviticus Jubilee to a prophecy**
- **subsequently applied it to the New Testament**

ISAIAH 61:1-3 (NKJV)

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 broken-hearted, to **proclaim
freedom** for the captives and release from
darkness for the prisoners,



ISAIAH 61:1-3 (NKJV)

² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour
and the day of vengeance of our God, to
comfort all who mourn,

ISAIAH 61:1-3 (NKJV)

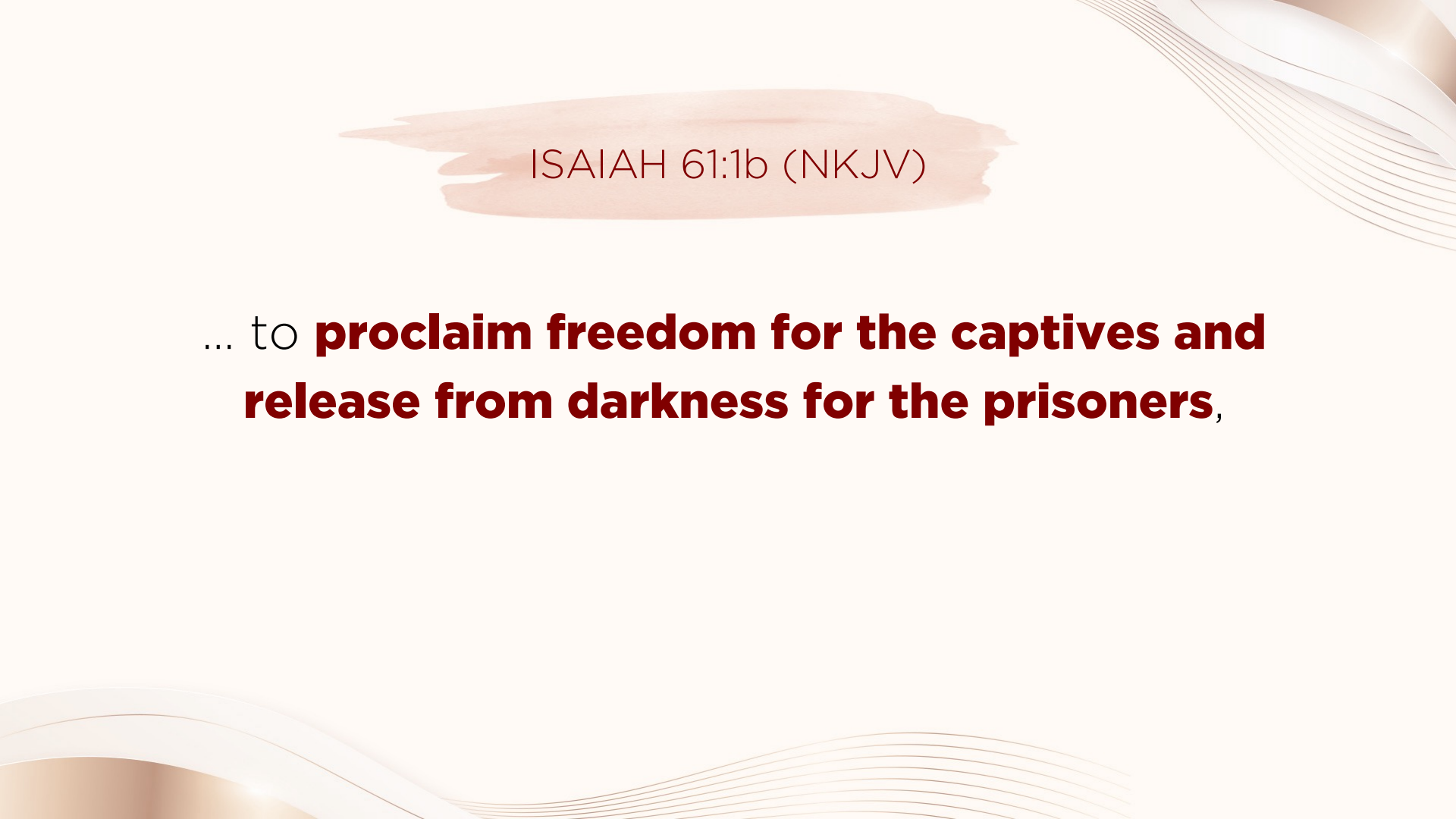
³ and provide **for those who grieve** in Zion –
to **bestow on them** a **crown of beauty instead**
of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise instead of a
spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of
righteousness, a planting of the LORD
for the display of his splendour.



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Link between Isaiah 61:1-3 and Leviticus 25**

- **Firstly, extended the Leviticus scope of bondage of debt**

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ISAIAH 61:1b (NKJV)

... to **proclaim freedom for the captives and
release from darkness for the prisoners,**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Link between Isaiah 61:1-3 and Leviticus 25**

- **Secondly, speaks of the Leviticus blessings of the Jubilee as a year of the Lord's favour and the outcome of joy!**

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LEVITICUS 25:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ That **fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you;**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Link between Isaiah 61:1-3 and Leviticus 25**

- **Chinese language translates Jubilee as 禧年 “Xinian”, or “joy year”.**
- **outcome for the year of Jubilee will be joyous**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Link between Isaiah 61:1-3 and Leviticus 25

- outcome in the year will be joyous**
- Coupled with the proclamation of freedom, the Jubilee year can be considered a year of the Lord's favour.**

ISAIAH 61:2-3 (NKJV)

2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour
and the day of vengeance of our God, 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.



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- ❖ **Link between Isaiah 61:1-3 and Leviticus 25**
- **affirmed by Jesus in Luke 4:16-21**
- **In other words, Jubilee is fulfilled in Christ**



❖ **Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus**

LUKE 4:16-21 (NKJV)

So **He came to Nazareth**, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. **17** And **He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah**. And when He had opened the book, **He found the place where it was written:**

LUKE 4:16-21 (NKJV)

18 “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me **To preach the gospel** to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken hearted, **To proclaim liberty to the captives** And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty **those who are oppressed;**

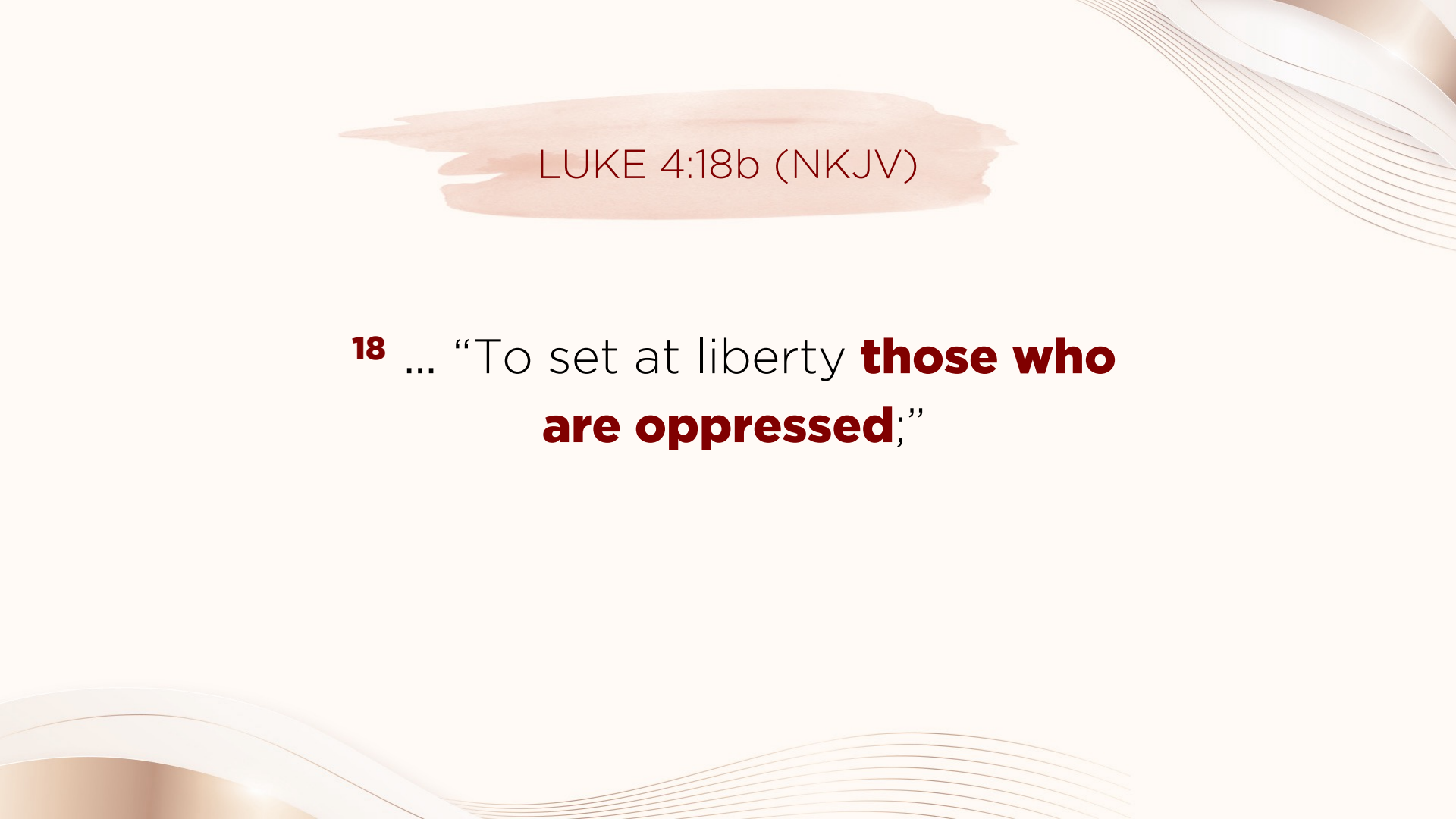
LUKE 4:16-21 (NKJV)

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” **20** Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. **21** And He began to say to them, “**Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.**”



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

- ❖ **Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus**
- **Luke 4:18 added the use of the word oppressed as another form of bondage that God can undo.**

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LUKE 4:18b (NKJV)

18 ... “To set at liberty **those who
are oppressed;**”



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus

- Liberty applies also to those who are oppressed by bondage of work.**
- We can relate to this the form of bondage caused by the oppression of work.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus

- spiritual oppression**
- emotional oppression**
- work oppression**
- racial oppression**
- religious oppression, and so forth**

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LUKE 4:18 (NKJV)

“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me ...

To set at liberty those who are oppressed;



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus

- slavery and bondage to work that many Singaporeans experience; caused by choice for many, and some by circumstances**
- God is concerned about slavery and bondage of such kind as well.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus

- **God created work for man right from the beginning.**
- **Genesis 1:26-28, 2:15**
- **Mankind has caused work to change from joy to toil.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus

- God instituted the one in seven days Sabbath day, the one in seven years Sabbath year, and the one in 50 years Sabbath year (what we call Jubilee year) to give rest and freedom to people and their land.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Affirmed by and fulfilled in Jesus**

- **Liberty: to be yoked to Christ and find rest and liberty.**

MATTHEW 11:28-30 (NKJV)

Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **29 Take My yoke upon you** and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and **you will find rest for your souls.** **30** For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Acceptable year of the Lord

*** Luke 4:19:**

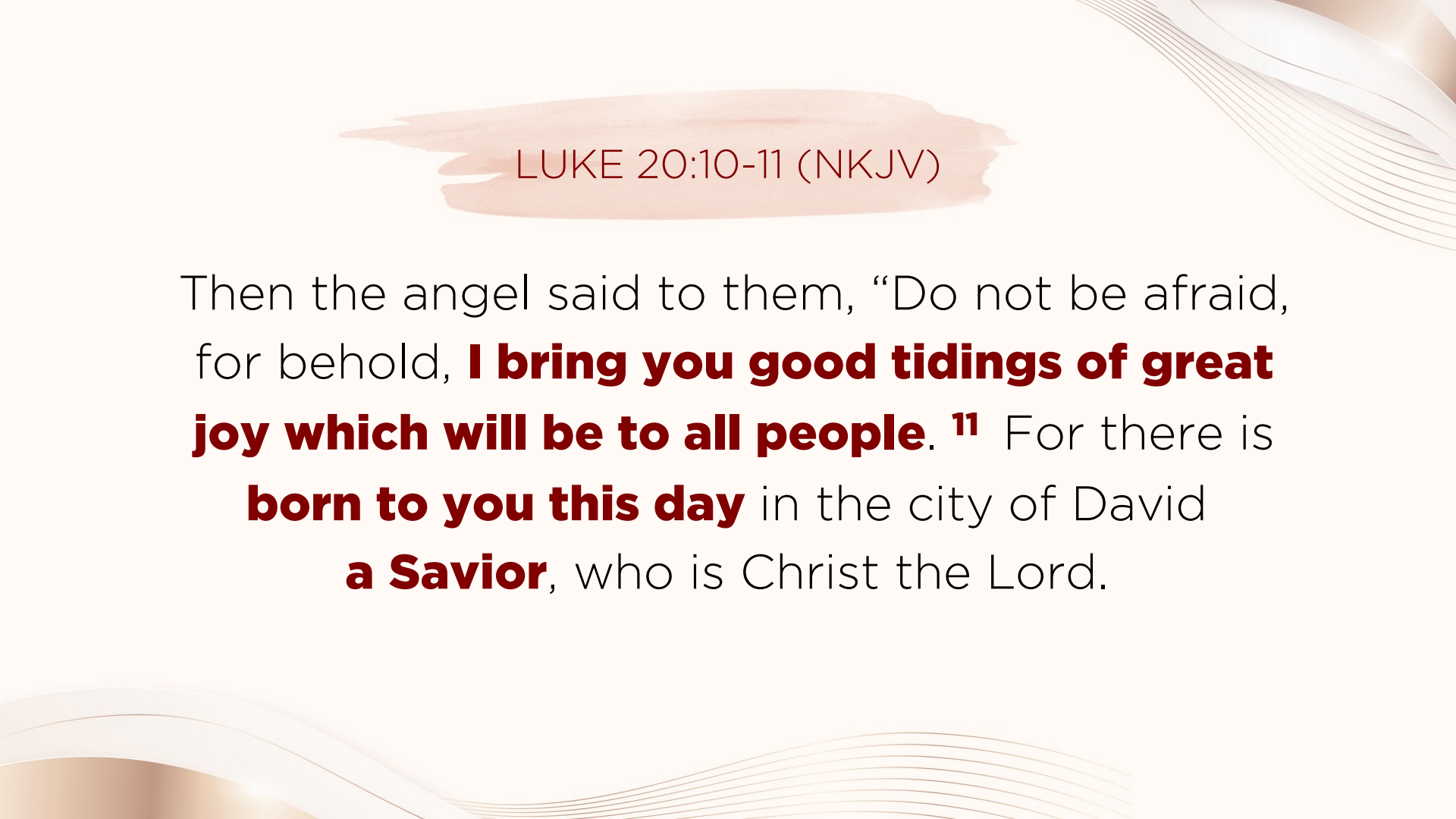
- Lord has come to proclaim**
- year of the Lord's favour**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Acceptable year of the Lord**

- **To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” (Luke 4:19)**
- **To proclaim the year of the LORD’s favour (Isaiah 61:2)**
- **Acceptable year of the Lord means the year of the Lord’s favour.**



LUKE 20:10-11 (NKJV)

Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, **I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.** ¹¹ For there is **born to you this day** in the city of David **a Savior**, who is Christ the Lord.



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Acceptable year of the Lord**

- **salvation through Christ the Saviour and Lord has come**
- **favourable news for all people**
- **good tidings of great joy!**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Acceptable year of the Lord**

- **The Jubilee that we have in Leviticus 25 is applicable to us in the widest sense by virtue of the declaration of the Lord in Luke 4:16-21.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Acceptable year of the Lord**

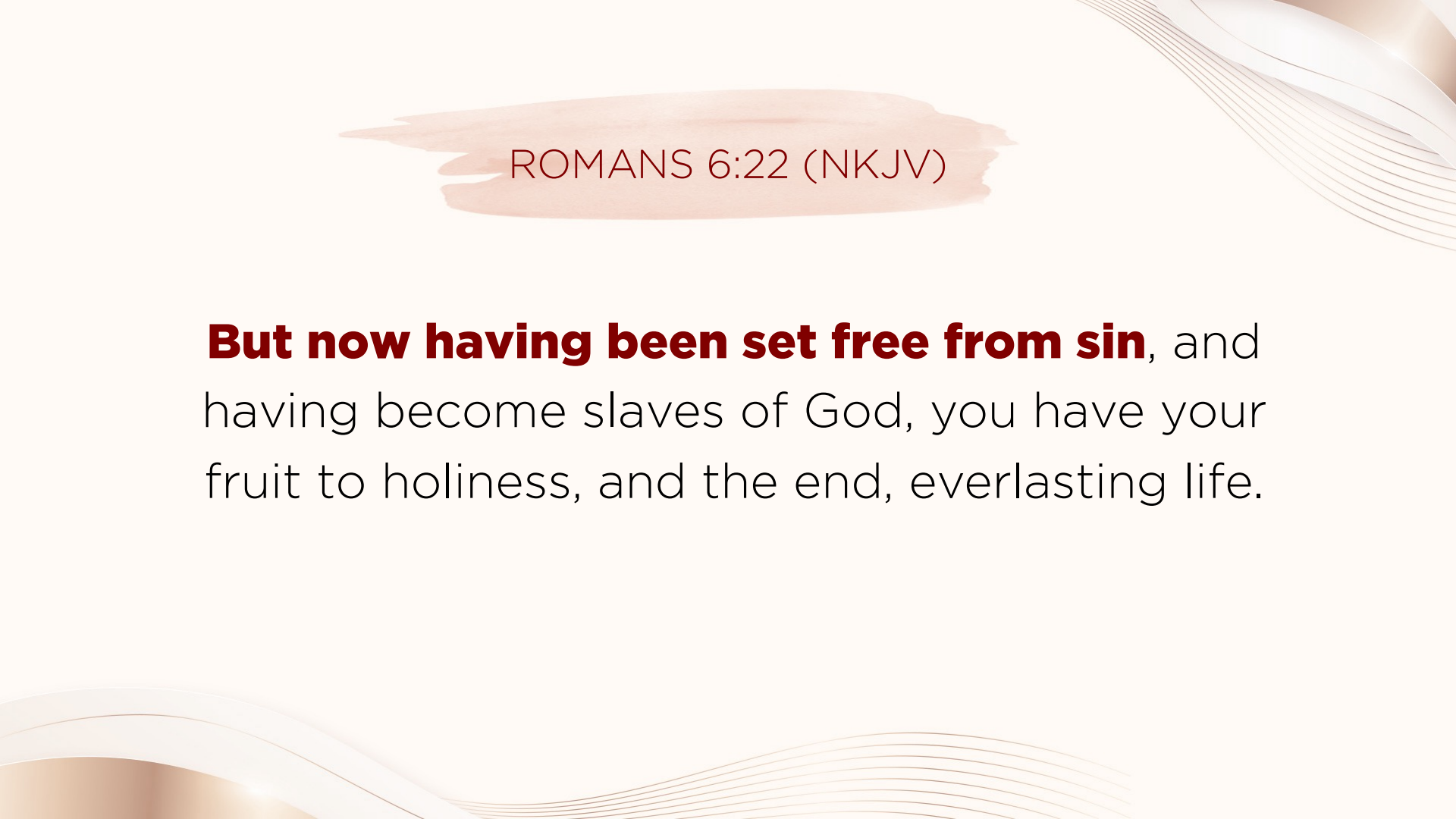
- **set free from various types of bondage in life**
- **spiritual and material**
- **bondage to sin**
- **bound by materialism**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Reaffirming our freedom

- declared as a matter of fact**
- acted upon to turn it into reality**
- Christ has set us free from sin**



ROMANS 6:22 (NKJV)

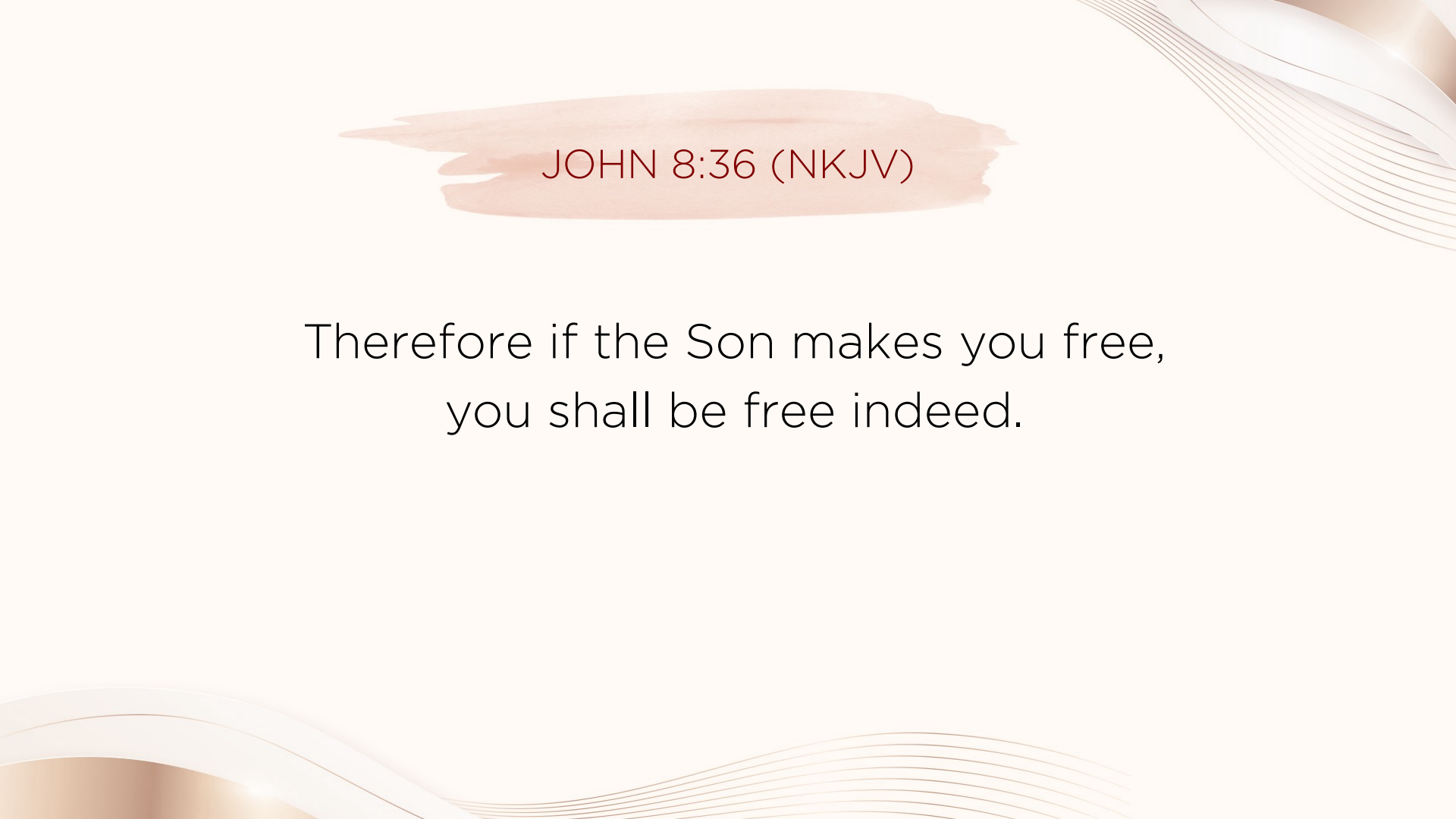
But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Reaffirming our freedom

- can be set free from sin but first they have to act upon the offer of salvation in Christ**

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JOHN 8:36 (NKJV)

Therefore if the Son makes you free,
you shall be free indeed.



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Reaffirming our freedom

- **Leviticus speaks of liberty from debt, limits to work and liberality in sharing wealth.**
- **curb materialism**
- **Christ has shown us freedom from materialism by His life of simplicity.**



Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ Proclaiming joy and liberty

LEVITICUS 25:10 (WYCLIFF BIBLE)

And **thou shalt hallow the fiftieth year**, and
thou shalt call it remission, or forgiveness, to all
the dwellers of thy land; for that year is [the]
jubilee, that is, the joyful year;





Reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting

❖ **Proclaiming joy and liberty**

- **Chinese translation for jubilee is 禧年**
Xinian
- **meant it to be joyful and we must be careful not to look at it as miserable**

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Conclusion

Story illustration: It is not the worst day of my life



Story illustration: It is not the worst day of my life

- **this is the worst day of my life**
- **the best day of my life eating breakfast at the Cecil Street Market**



Story illustration: It is not the worst day of my life

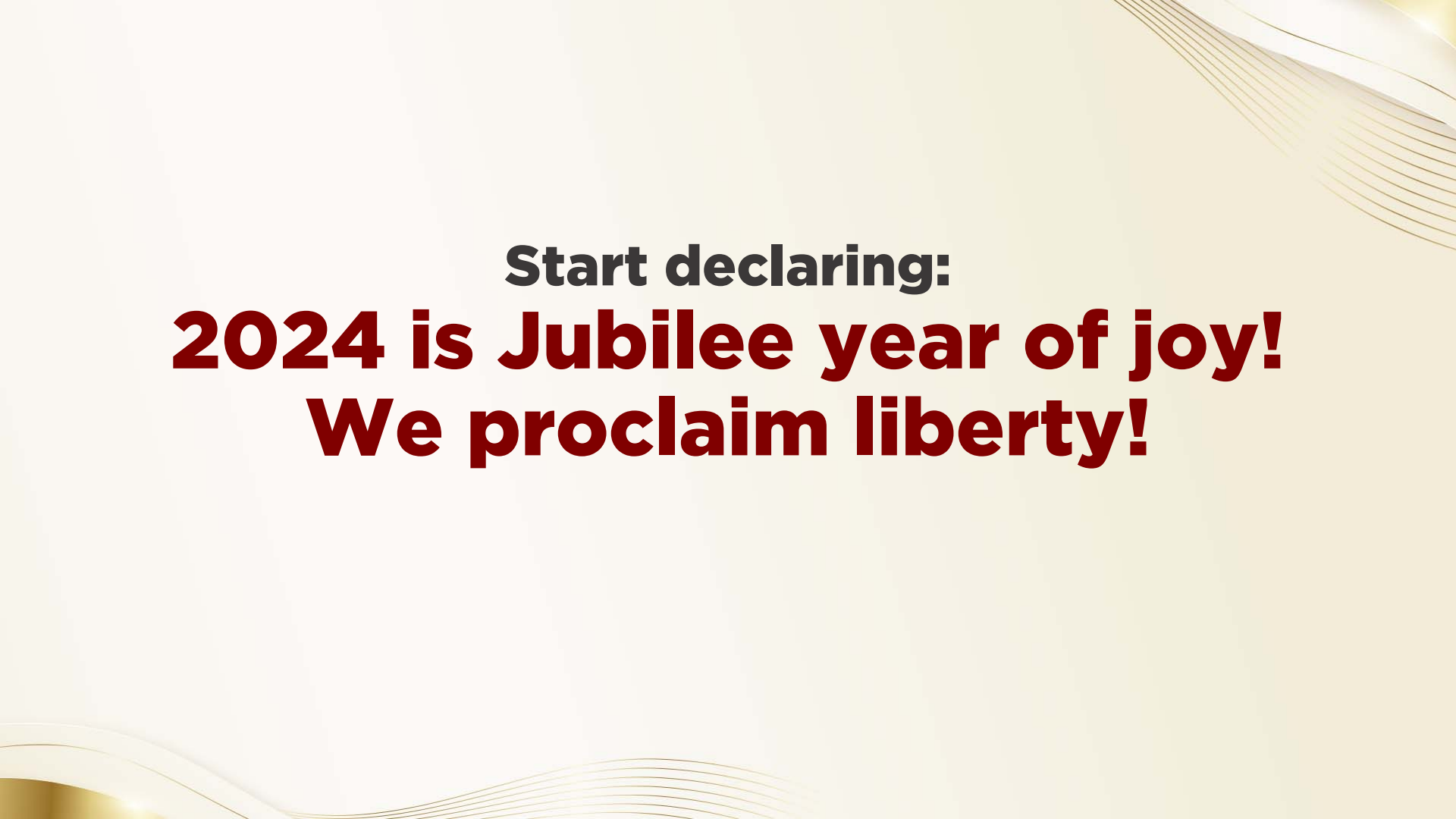
- **but they cried and said that it was the worst day of their lives**
- **different responses over the same place and same thing**

Story illustration: It is not the worst day of my life

- **The year of jubilee is joyful and not sorrowful.**
- **best year of your life and not the worst year of your life**

Story illustration: It is not the worst day of my life

- **In respects of God's proclamation of liberty to us, let us not hold out in the jungle of ignorance or unbelief.**
- **We need to change our mindset and expectation.**



Start declaring:
2024 is Jubilee year of joy!
We proclaim liberty!