

A.M. OUTLINE

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THE GOSPEL IS GOOD NEWS

(Isaiah 61:1 – 3, v10 – 11)

INTRODUCTION

The television news, the newspapers, gives plenty of bad news to us.

Here's good news: (Mark 1:14-15) "After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, preaching the **gospel (good news)** of the kingdom of God, saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the **gospel (good news)**."

WHAT DOES THE "GOOD NEWS" OF THE BIBLE DO FOR US?

1. (Prov. 15:30) "Bright eyes gladden the heart; good news puts fat on the bones."

The proverb is not speaking about physical fattening; rather, good news strengthens us, makes us feel better, and makes the heart glad.

The gospel (good news) does that: (1 Peter 2:2; Eph. 6:10-11)

2. (Prov. 25:25) "As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country."

When one is thirsty, parched, and dry-mouthed, there is one desire: cool, cool water. (Mtt. 5:6) "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: they shall be filled" (Psalm 42:1-2) "... my soul thirsts for God, for the living God"

3. (Isaiah 61:1) "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because the Lord has anointed me to preach good tidings (good news) to the afflicted ..."

Isaiah, in prophetic language, reveals the good news that God is promising through His Son, a message of hope, deliverance, and salvation for all.

- (v1) "to bind up the broken-hearted"

These soon to be captive Israelites were grieving over their rejection of God, were sin-sick, discouraged, and in need of relief.

When our sins break our heart, we have a Great Physician: Hymn #291

- (v1) "to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound" - (John 8:31-32; Rms. 6:17-18)

- (v2) "to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord ... " - (Gal. 4:3-5)

- (v2) "to comfort all that mourn" - (Matt. 5:4)

- (v3) "to give them beauty for ashes" - Good news! God's amazing grace can take the ugliness of ashes and replace them with the beauty of forgiveness.

4. (Mark 16:15-16) "he said to them, Go ye into all the world, preach the gospel (good news) to every creature. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved ..."