

Restoration Anointing

Isaiah 61

Discover

Restoration is the process of healing something sick or broken to its original condition. Anointing is the presence of spiritual gifts and power upon someone blessed by God.

Isaiah 61 illustrates the Holy Spirit's presence resting upon God's people, so that we may participate in his mission to restore all nations as his beloved sons and daughters.

When we believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to live within us, opening up unhindered access to our Lord Jesus in praise, prayer, affection, and obedience. (Romans 5:1-2)

Jesus read from Isaiah 61, saying his mission fulfilled this prophecy. Even though he was performing miracles in the Holy Spirit's power, he was rejected. We too must expect rejection and even condemnation from our own friends, neighbors, and even close family members. (Luke 4:16-30)

The Spirit of the Living God is our Faithful Companion. He guides us with Jesus' wisdom so that our lives shine with grace. This grace captures the hearts of those around us, creating a desire to enter his kingdom. (2 Corinthians 3:1-6)

God's anointing is awesome! Therefore, we must be careful to remain humble and compassionate. The devil tries to corrupt our hearts with pride. The Holy Spirit distributes gifts according to God's sovereign will. (1 Corinthians 12:7-11)

This lesson will help disciples understand the purpose of the indwelling Holy Spirit's presence. He guides us as ministers of freedom, so that we will have compassion on and care for all who have wandered away from God's love.



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Draw

King: throne & crown - The Holy Spirit carries the divine authority of God to empower and guide believers in completing his mission to restore all nations. His kingdom is the healing influence in every earthly kingdom. Our Father cultivates hearts that praise his name in every tribe. (61:1,11)

Savior: cross & empty tomb - The Holy Spirit ministers Jesus' salvation to our hearts, assisting us as we repent of our evil and receive eternal life. We praise and worship the Lord because of his holiness, majesty, and splendor. (61:10)

Baptizer: waves - We once lived in shame and walked in disgrace; now, we are baptized by the Holy Spirit into an unquenchable joy fueled by his flawless love. Our disgrace was complete, our wickedness led to total disaster; now, we have been immersed in a double portion of God's favor and blessing. Our hearts are new; we love to be with God. (61:7)

Healer: laying on hands - The Holy Spirit pours resurrection life into devastation and helps us to be healers of the brokenness and humiliation all around us. First, we identify devastation; then, we patiently nurture renewal. (61:4)

Deliverer: key - The Holy Spirit anoints us with clarity of purpose: to seek out prisoners oppressed by spiritual bondage, embrace them, declare hope, and liberate them. The key to deliverance is the Holy Spirit's power. (61:1)

Shepherd: rod & staff - The Holy Spirit helps us guide our friends from every nation to participate in this freedom mission, so we may enjoy the fruit together. God creates within our hearts a yearning for a global family. (61:5-6)

Teacher: fruitful plant - The Holy Spirit is our daily teacher. He helps us experience the presence of God, so that we will become spiritually mature through Jesus' wisdom. (61:3)

Discuss

What is the difference between the “anointing” of the Holy Spirit upon us in Isaiah 61:1 and the “sealing” of the Holy Spirit within us in Ephesians 1:13-14? Why do we need both?

Consider Paul’s teaching in 2 Corinthians 3:17-18. Freedom is found wherever the Holy Spirit is present, and the Spirit lives in us. How can we participate in this freedom that is always present with us wherever we are? How can we help others near us experience his presence and freedom?

Take a closer look at Isaiah 61:11. Why do you think God chose to illustrate his salvation mission to all nations with the analogy of cultivating a fruitful garden? What skills are needed to “cultivate” spiritual maturity in someone’s life?

What is the connection between the Holy Spirit’s anointing in Isaiah 61:1 and Jesus’ final commission to the disciples in Acts 1:8 to wait for the Holy Spirit to come upon them? What is the relationship between God’s power and mission? Is it possible to complete his mission without his power?

Disciple

Let’s get practical. Isaiah 61:1-3 lists at least five actions of an anointed disciple. Do you know anyone with a broken heart, someone still mourning a loss, someone captive to spiritual bondage? What is the Holy Spirit asking you to do?

Dedicate

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to rest upon us in power. We gladly receive whatever anointings and gifts you desire to give. Please open our eyes to perceive these gifts, and guide us to follow Jesus in the power of your Holy Spirit. Please help us to walk in your freedom, in Jesus’ name and for his glory we pray, amen.