

# BIBLE STUDY

9/25/14

## Genesis 35

<sup>16</sup> Then they journeyed from Bethel. When they were still some distance<sup>[a]</sup> from Ephrath, Rachel went into labor, and she had hard labor. <sup>17</sup> And when her labor was at its hardest, the midwife said to her, “Do not fear, for you have another son.” <sup>18</sup> And as her soul was departing (for she was dying), she called his name Ben-oni;<sup>[b]</sup> but his father called him Benjamin.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>19</sup> So Rachel died, and she was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem), <sup>20</sup> and Jacob set up a pillar over her tomb. It is the pillar of Rachel's tomb, which is there to this day.

## Jeremiah 31

<sup>15</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
lamentation and bitter weeping.  
Rachel is weeping for her children;  
she refuses to be comforted for  
her children,  
because they are no more.”

## Matthew 2

<sup>16</sup> Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup> Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup> “A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted,  
because they are no more.”

<sup>19</sup> But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,<sup>20</sup> saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” <sup>21</sup> And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

## Daniel 6

<sup>10</sup>When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house...He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously. <sup>11</sup>Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel making petition and plea before his God. <sup>13</sup>Then they said before the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or the injunction you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day."

<sup>14</sup>Then the king, when he heard these words, was much distressed and set his mind to deliver Daniel. And he labored till the sun went down to rescue him. <sup>16</sup>Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!" <sup>17</sup>And a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.

## Matthew 26

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." <sup>42</sup>Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." <sup>43</sup>And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup>So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. <sup>45</sup>Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners." <sup>46</sup>Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand." <sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, Judas came...

## Matthew 27

<sup>59</sup>And Joseph took the body ... <sup>60</sup>and laid it in his own new tomb... And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away ...The chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate <sup>63</sup>and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' <sup>64</sup>Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day... first." <sup>65</sup>Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." <sup>66</sup>So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

## Luke 4 and Release Play

**NARRATOR:** When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.

And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district. And He *began* teaching in their synagogues and was praised by all. He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the scroll and found the place where it was written,

**JESUS:** "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME,  
BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR.  
HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM **RELEASE** TO THE CAPTIVES,  
AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND,  
TO **RELEASE** THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED,  
TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

**NARRATOR:** And He closed the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

**JESUS:** Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.

**NARRATOR:** And all were speaking well of Him, and wondering at the gracious words which were falling from His lips.

**PEOPLE:** Is this not Joseph's son?

**JESUS:** No doubt you will quote this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we heard was done at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.' Truly I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But I say to you in truth, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land; and yet Elijah was sent to none of them, but only to Zarephath, *in the land* of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. <sup>27</sup> And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.

**NARRATOR:** And all *the people* in the synagogue were filled with rage as they heard these things; and they got up and drove Him out of the city, and led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city had been built, in order to throw Him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, He went His way.

## Jubilee: Year of Release

Leviticus 25:2 “Moses, say to the children of Israel: When you enter the land that I am giving you, the land is to have a Sabbath, Sabbath to Yahweh. <sup>3</sup>For six years you are to sow your field... <sup>4</sup>but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath, Sabbath for the land, a Sabbath to Yahweh: your field you are not to sow...<sup>5</sup>a Sabbath, Sabbath shall there be for the land! <sup>8</sup>You are to number yourselves seven Sabbath-cycle of years—seven years, seven times—so the time of the seven Sabbath cycles of years will be forty-nine years. <sup>9</sup>Then you are to blast the shofar (trumpet), on the Day of Atonement, you are to give a blast throughout all your land. <sup>10</sup>You are to set apart as holy the fiftieth year, **proclaiming release** to all the land’s inhabitants; it shall be a Jubilee for you, you are to return, each man to his holding. <sup>11</sup>It is a Jubilee, the fiftieth year—you are not to sow...<sup>12</sup>for it is a Jubilee, holy shall it be for you, <sup>13</sup>in this year of Jubilee you are to return, each man to his holding....<sup>54</sup>[An Israelite slave] is to go free in the Year of Jubilee, he and his children.”

Jeremiah 34 Jeremiah cries out against the injustice in Israelite society—they will not **“proclaim release”** to their Hebrew slaves (v. 8) in the seventh year. Thus, Jeremiah tells them that calamity is coming. His prediction comes true. Thus, the king and the people make a hasty covenant with God to avert the punishment. This is what happened: “King Zedekiah made a covenant with all the people who were in Jerusalem to **proclaim release** to them: that each man should set free his Hebrew male and female slaves; so that no one should keep them in bondage. And all the officials and all the people obeyed who had entered into the covenant that each man should set free his male and female servants so that no one should keep them any longer in bondage; they obeyed, and set them free. But after [the calamity was averted] they turned around and took back the male and female servants whom they had set free, and brought them into subjection as slaves.”

Isaiah 61:1 According to Isaiah there was a future kingdom coming in which Messiah would reign. He speaks about the Messiah: “The Spirit of the Yahweh Elohim is upon me, because Yahweh has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to **proclaim release** to captives and freedom to prisoners.” Isaiah 58:6 And to **release** the oppressed.

Approximately 600 years later, on the Sabbath and in the synagogue of His home town, Jesus reads this verse, sits down, and declares that on this day this prophesy was fulfilled. Jesus is the great RELEASER.

## Releasing the Oppressed

Luke 4:18

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO RELEASE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

Luke 13

<sup>10</sup> Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. <sup>11</sup> And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. <sup>12</sup> When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your disability." <sup>13</sup> And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. <sup>14</sup> But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." <sup>15</sup> Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? <sup>16</sup> And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be released from this bond on the Sabbath day?"

Acts 10

<sup>34</sup> So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

## Releasing the Demon Possessed

### Luke 4:31-37

<sup>31</sup> And He came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and He was teaching them on the Sabbath;<sup>32</sup> and they were amazed at His teaching, for His message was with authority. <sup>33</sup> In the synagogue there was a man possessed by the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup> "Let us alone! What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!" <sup>35</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be muzzled and depart from him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst of the people, he came out of him without doing him any harm. <sup>36</sup> And amazement came upon them all, and they began talking with one another saying, "What is this message? For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits and they come out." <sup>37</sup> And the report about Him was spreading into every locality in the surrounding district.

### Luke 4:40-41

<sup>40</sup> While the sun was setting, all those who had any *who were* sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them. <sup>41</sup> Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ.

Luke 8:26-39 <sup>26</sup> Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes. He was met by a man from the city who was possessed with demons; and who had not put on any clothing for a long time, and was in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> Seeing Jesus, he cried out and fell before Him, and said in a loud voice, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment

me." <sup>29</sup> For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had seized him many times; and he was bound with chains and shackles and kept under guard, and yet he would break his bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert...

Luke 9:37-43 A man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg You to look at my son, for he is my only boy," <sup>39</sup> and a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly screams, and it throws him into a convulsion; and only with difficulty does it leave him, mauling him. "Bring your son here." <sup>42</sup> While he was approaching, the demon slammed him to the ground and threw him into a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy and gave him back to his father.