

REPOSITIONED

Willis 12/30/11

Lk4:18-19

We began 2011 with an announcement of “repositioning.” **In transitional times a people who do not reposition are a people who become irrelevant and soon obsolete.** Israel of the O.T. is an example of a people who faced a transitional shift but didn’t reposition.

- Stuck in the former, they heard the announcements...knew the prophecies but were unwilling to make the shift. Consequently Jesus said, “The Kingdom will be taken from you and given to a people willing to produce the fruit of it.” Mt21:34

I have often wondered why 400 silent years? Why did God quit speaking from the last book of the O.T. and the first book of the new? **Could it be it took 400 years of silence to reposition a people to receive the focus of something new?**

- There is a reason they are called the O.T. and the New. 400 silent years to reposition a people for the new manner in which God was about to move.
- As needful as the former foundations were a new operating system was coming. As essential as everything in the Old was, the New was about to take a radical shift. Everything about the New would be concealed in the Old.
- The shift from the O.T. to the New wasn’t because the O.T. was wrong and N.T right. The shift was simply a revealing. The essence of the New was always in the Old but what was in the Old concealed would now become the essence of the New revealed.

So after closing out the O.T. with the threat of a curse, God waits 400 years and opens the N.T up with the promise of “good news and great joy.” Spoken of first by the angel Gabriel, then Jesus confirms the radical shift as He inaugurates His public ministry.

- Lk4 is the record of His first speaking engagement. After 400 years of silence and 30 years of relative obscurity...God is about to speak. Would He pick up on the possible curse of the Old or would there be a shift into something new?
- So as was His custom, Jesus enters the Synagogue and of all the books that could have been handed to Him they give Him the Book of Isaiah and of all the chapters He could have read from He reads from Isaiah 61 verses 1-2. (Read Lk4:18-19 The Message)

- I feel pressed of the Lord to belabor this point...

Lk1:19 **After 400 silent years “Good News” is the tone Father chose to reposition with.** There was sure good reason to lead with judgment...He could have chosen to lead with wrath but in His sovereignty He chose to reposition us in Good News.

Lk2:10 **Good news is the essential message of Christ’s coming. He came to bring good news.** When He who comes is a Savior good news is no longer circumstantial. The Good News of Jesus Christ is never based on the circumstances of man.

- Savior is like the original Superhero. His Superhero power is saving. Whatever the circumstance might be Jesus has the power to save. Sometimes He saves us from them and sometimes He saves us in them.
- Whether it be from them or in them; it is all Good News.

So with this ongoing need to reposition the mind, we would like to announce the theme for 2012 to be **“THE YEAR OF GOOD NEWS”** (explain the sign)

- Part of the shift I am referring to has to do with focus. Whereas most of our prior themes had to do with the responsibility side of our walk; this year Holy Spirit comes to focus on the side of benefit.

On the Tuesday of Family Camp week this year the Lord (quite out of the blue) dropped in my spirit this theme for 2012. Originally all I heard was the word “Gospel.”

- **Immediately I understood “Good News” was to be the phrase we were to use but The Gospel was to be the source we were to emphasize.** Gospel and good news being one in the same.

I don’t know about you but 2012 doesn’t seem like a very good year to announce a year of good news. With threats of political upheaval and pending financial collapse...bad news would be the odds on favorite to announce.

- And that is exactly why the brilliance of God chose 2012 to announce “The Year of Good News.” The Good News God brings is not circumstantial; the Good News of Jesus Christ is providential.
- **The reason it’s good is because it’s God. If it’s God it’s good because it’s not predicated upon man. If it’s not predicated upon man then it’s good because it’s God working and man resting.**

We read in our text this evening “**He sent me to preach the Good News...to announce this is God’s Year to Act.**” As I have prayed into this theme there are 3 things coming very clear to me for 2012...

1. **2012 Will be a Year of Amazing Grace: Rm4:15-16** Grace is the substructure of all good news. In fact grace is what makes the good news good. Without grace there would be news but there would be nothing good about the news we have.
 - **As we celebrate this Year of Good News we will be amazed at the extent to which God acts because we trust grace to do what man is incapable of doing.**
2. **2012 Will be a Year of Sudden Change: Mal 3:1** I was having lunch with Mark Moody last Friday and he said the Lord spoke to him about CCK saying, (I paraphrase)
 - **“There is coming a shift to CCK, 2012 will be a year of “suddenlies.” Seeing suddenly, hearing suddenly, saying suddenly and doing suddenly. CCK is at a tipping point. These “suddenlies” are in direct response to what was secured in the Daniel fast.**
 - It is good news when the God we seek suddenly comes. It is good news when that expectant waiting becomes a sudden moving. 2012 is a safe time to reposition our hearts from an expectation of man waiting to an expectation of God moving.
3. **2012 Will be a Year of the Gospel: Rm1:16** Being that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation we must get very clear as to what the Gospel is and how the Gospel is best presented.
 - As you can see in reading different translations, the Gospel and the Good News are one in the same. Translations use them interchangeably. On one level the Gospel is too broad for simple definition.
 - For some the Gospel is the first 4 books of the N.T. For others the Gospel is the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ...and it is most definitely all of those things and more.
 - **The Gospel is the Good News of Jesus Christ that though man is dead in trespasses and sin in Christ he is forgiven, restored, equipped and sent.**
 - Whatever the Gospel is 2012 is the year for us to find it, know it and speak it for whatever the Gospel is it is the power of God unto salvation. The more we know of the Gospel the more we will realize in overflow.

- The more we know of the Gospel the more we will know of the power of God. The more we know of the Gospel the more we will know of apostolic results...Biblical results...people changed...cities transformed.

Just by way of confirmation, Rick Joyner sent out a word on Oct 6, 2011 which he called The Great Tsunami. In it he spoke of what he was seeing coming to the Church in 2012. Among many other things Rick said:

- **“What is coming is the return to the apostolic Gospel. Jesus is coming to take His rightful place in the Church. The true apostolic Gospel is Jesus. They preached Jesus and the resurrection from the dead. Jesus again will be the message and it will be what He is doing that gets the attention. When this next wave hits, the news around the world is going to be dominated by good news.”**

So much more needs to be said about this so we will spend the next year unfolding what we have announced. For now let me emphasize the importance of where we began, **2012 is “a year for God to act” so we must reposition:**

- **Reposition for a Greater God factor:** It’s for Him, by Him and through Him. We need a greater focus on God than on structure. We must reposition in grace to obey not obligation. Grace doesn’t mean we do less, grace means we might do more but we do it for Him and by Him.
- **Reposition Time:** We are clearing as much of the schedule as we can so the Good News can be shared with others. Saturday night prayer will now be Sunday morning 9am to 9:45; Congregation Mtgs will be quarterly; Home Groups will be twice a month and small groups twice a month with new small groups being used as outreach groups. (January will remain as is so we can explain this Jan 19th at the Cong. Mtg.) Conferences like PAC and Generations will be every other year so we can free up more time.
- **Reposition Expectation:** This will be a year of Good News; a year of amazing grace; a year of sudden changes; a year of gospel power...so let your expectation go there. Whatever circumstance might occur, expect good to come from it.

2012 THE YEAR OF GOOD NEWS