

## **Give Them Back**

Have your ballast stones lost their weight?

- Ballasts are heavy materials, like stones, put on a ship to make it steady
- Ballasts improve stability and control
- Many used to possess bedrock, granite-like beliefs that brought stability and guidance to your life.
- Somehow time passing has caused your ballast stones to lose weight, and you have drifted off course
- Solid, serious, consistent and devoted Bible study and seeking prayer and consecration will add proper weight back to those stones
- Water containers can be used for ballasts. Have your containers leaked?

Who wants to get back what has been lost?

Jesus said, "If you anyone desired to be my disciple, he must deny himself, take up his cross and FOLLOW me!"

Being a Christian is to be like Christ.

### **Luke 4:13-21**

- Returned in power of Spirit - began ministry
- The one thing Jesus valued was people and their freedom.
- Jesus' ministry is our ministry!
- We are the recipients and beneficiaries of Jesus' ministry. Further, we are invited, even commanded, to participate in Jesus' ministry.

### **Sent Like Jesus**

**John 20:21-22**

**John 14:11-14**

**Isaiah 42:22**

- People robbed and plundered
- Trapped in pits
- Locked up in prisons
- Easy picking for birds of prey
- NO ONE DELIVERS
- Being plundered!
- NO ONE SAYS - "Restore!" or "Give them back!"

**Isaiah 61:3-7**

Verse 3

- Trees (oaks) of righteousness
  - Heavily weighted ballasts
- Planting of Lord
- Solid, steady, productive
- That He may be glorified!

Verse 4

- Rebuild old ruins
- Raise up desolations

- Repair ruined lives
- Repair what has been destroyed by generations of abuse!

Verse 5

- Divine
- Unexplainable provision
- Provision from unexpected sources

Verse 6

- Priests of God
  - Minister to God
  - Minister for God to the people

Somebody needs to get the ballasts fully weighted again.

Somebody must get back what has been lost.

Somebody needs to follow Jesus.

Somebody must love people like Jesus loves people.

Why did Jesus cast out demons into the swine from the man of Gaderenes?

- Demons did not want to be cast in to the abyss
- Demons seek bodies
- Swine have no eternal spirit
- Jesus was just so angry that his man suffered so much. He said to the demons, "I don't care where you go, but you can't torment this man anymore." *Get Out! Give him back!*

Who will do the works of Jesus, if not you?

Who will preach good news, if not you?

Who will heal the brokenhearted, if not you?

Who will proclaim liberty to the captives and open prison doors to the bound, if not you?

Who will comfort those who mourn? Who will give them beauty for ashes? Who will give them the oil of gladness? Who will put on garments of praise to those bound by the spirit of heaviness, if not you?

Who will become an oak of righteousness?

Who will be planted in the Lord?

Who will bring glory to God?

Who will rebuild the old ruins?

Who will raise people up?

Who will take on the ministry as priests of the Lord?

Who will say, "Give them back! Give them back! Give them back!"

Who will repent and turn to God today?

Who will cry out and say, "I need weight restored to my ballast?"

Who will say, "Here am I. Send me?"

Satan is a liar. You can do this! God can and God will use you. You are God's woman (man).  
You are a priest of God.

The same power (Holy Spirit) that raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.

### **ALTAR CALL**

If you need to be free today, then Jesus will set you free.

If you need to get you weight, your solidity, your stability, your purpose back, then repent and call out to Jesus, "Here am I send me."