



Brokenhearted

Gospel: Part Two

He healed the brokenhearted.

The words of Jesus Christ state a six-fold effort that he undertook at God's request.

(Luke 4:18-19) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, {19} To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.



He preached the gospel to the poor.

He healed the brokenhearted.

He preached deliverance to the captives.

He preached recovering of sight to the blind.

He set at liberty them that are bruised.

To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

That work still takes place today. When the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached, five distinct effects unfold: healed hearts, delivered

captives, healed blind, freed bruised ones, and preaching of the acceptable year of the Lord. I must tell you, straight away, that these phrases might not mean what they appear to say. For instance, the phrase "deliverance to the captives" means, "forgiveness of sins to the enslaved captives." The meaning is a far cry from how the English reads. I suggest that we review the meanings of each phrase for the now, obvious reason—incorrect translations. If I'm right, you could be on to something big, something that will minister to every aspect of your life and allow you to live victoriously according to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

He healed the brokenhearted.

Brokenhearted

All of the primary translators of the Authorized 1611 Version of the New Testament agree that this phrase is not in the text. I worked it and have provided my research with this in mind. The subject of a bruised reed is enlightening, and my conclusion does not contradict the gospel of Jesus Christ. As you study this, please keep in mind that the phrase, “heal the brokenhearted:” is not in the text. I’ve included the reference at the end.

The word “heal” means exactly that—to heal, to make whole.

Brokenhearted comes from the Greek word *suntribo*, meaning, “to crush completely, to shatter, break in pieces.” It is translated “bruise” and “broken.”

The first time it is used in the New Testament is in Matthew 12:20:

(Mat 12:20) A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory.

A “bruised” reed shall he not break. There is an orientalism—an Eastern Occident meaning, an idiom, to understand. Matthew 12: 20 is quoted from Isaiah 42:3:

(Isa 42:3) A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.

The reed mentioned grows in the wild in the East, anywhere there is water. It looks just like sugarcane from a distance, but it has no sugar in the middle—it is hollow. During the heat of the day, the reeds bend down to the ground; in the evening’s cooler

temperatures, they rise back to their full height. People often gather to see this. Jesus wanted to know if the people came to hear the teachings of John the Baptist, or if they had gathered only to see the material things.

Children would play flutes made from these reeds; holes would be made in the reed and then music could be made by blowing through the reed. Children would play these in the market place; other kids would sing along. Eventually, the family would attach sentimental value to the flute. If it fell and was damaged, it would be repaired with wax. Another one could easily be made, but the family wanted to keep the old one, even if it was bruised.

Figuratively, when we are bruised by negative thoughts, God will renew us by repairing the damage, just like the damaged

Brokenhearted

reed or flute. We get bruised by being indifferent to the claim of Christ.

The Greek word, suntribo, has no mention of heart within it. It strictly means, “bruised, broken, shattered.”

Allow me to provide another few verses using this same word.

(Luke 9:39) And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.

The man’s child was tormented by a devil spirit. It was breaking the child apart. Imagine the torment.

(Rom 16:20) And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus

Christ be with you. Amen.

This is one of my favorites. The God of peace shall utterly crush, break apart, shatter satan under our feet shortly. Can you image what this will look like? How exciting!

Jesus was sent to heal the completely crushed people of the world. This work has not stopped. Many are still crushed. Are you? Would you like to be healed? You must accept Jesus Christ in order to start the healing process. Once you accept Christ, you are made whole and satan is yet again crushed through the loss of one of his subjects.

Much love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown

Stephen’s Greek Text and Interlinear reference, Luke 4:18: <https://archive.org/stream/inte>

rlinearliter00newy#page/158/
mode/2up See footnote ‘g’.