

# The Blueprint for True Freedom: *Reset*

## Leviticus 25:8-17

### *Four Major Economic Disparities in the Capital City of the New South*

- **The Staggering Wealth Divide:** Households of White Atlantans possess 46 times more wealth than Black households (a median of \$238,355 compared to just \$5,180).
- **The Reality of Zero Assets:** Over one-third—36%—of Black households in Atlanta have zero or negative net worth, meaning their debts outweigh their assets.
- **The Housing Disparity:** Black residents make up 48% of the city's households, but own only 17% of the city's housing wealth.
- **The Blocked Exits:** According to longitudinal research, a child born into poverty in Atlanta, regardless of ethnicity, has only a 4% chance of escaping it in their lifetime.

### *The Essence of the Fifty-Year Reset (Jubilee)*


- **Restoration of Property:** Land sold due to poverty was returned to its original family owner.
- **Freedom for Slaves:** Hebrew slaves were set free and indentured servants returned to their families.
- **Rest for the Land:** No sowing or harvesting was permitted; the land rested, and people ate from the previous harvests.
- **Debt Forgiveness:** All debts were cleared, providing a total economic "Reset."

1. **THE CYCLE OF DISPOSSESSION:** Without intervention, economic systems eventually drift toward inequality due to the reality that over the course of time, families will inevitably face financial adversity (Leviticus 25:8-10).

### *Two Harsh Realities of Adversity Induced Indebtedness*

- ▶ **The Reality of Economic Separation** – The command to “return to your family property” in Leviticus 25:10 highlights the crisis of adversity-induced debt and income inequality, whereby good families are torn apart and separated from their property (Leviticus 25:10).
- ▶ **The Reality of Economic Exploitation** – The fact that God even had to tell the people in Leviticus 25:14, “do not take advantage of each other,” indicates that people taking advantage of the less fortunate has been a problem literally since the beginning of time (Leviticus 25:14).

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2. **THE SOUND OF FREEDOM:** The Lord our God instituted the Jubilee as a mandatory, systemic reset. It was a grace-filled divine interruption to the status quo economy (Leviticus 25:9-10).

### *Where Does It Begin and Who Is It For?*

- ▶ **Freedom Begins with Atonement** – *“on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land.”* Our economic health is inextricably bound to our spiritual health. We cannot fix our indebtedness financially if we are bankrupt spiritually (Leviticus 25:9).
- ▶ **Freedom Is for Everybody** – God’s model for our freedom is not a selective liberation. The command on the Day of Atonement was to, *“proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants (Leviticus 25:10).”*

3. **THE PRACTICE OF FREEDOM:** Those who place their faith in Jesus Christ are called to bring the principles of Jubilee into our modern, everyday contexts, proclaiming freedom, restoration and the opportunity to reset wherever we have influence (Leviticus 25:8-10).

### *What Must We Do?*

- ▶ **We Must Return** – Remember, our freedom is not just for us; it is also for everyone God has connected to us. Our divine assignment is to let them know that their freedom is in Christ (Leviticus 25:10).
- ▶ **We Must Announce Release** – No matter what we have done, no matter what we are currently caught up in, by faith in Jesus Christ, we have been freed, that is, released from the debt and penalty of our sins (Leviticus 25:10).

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