



Luke 4:16-21

Good News to the Poor



Can anything “good” come out of Nazareth?



Luke 4:17-21

17 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." 20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 **And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."**



- *Good News (euangelion):*
 - *First coming of Jesus as Christ child*
 - *All that Jesus taught and did in the Gospels*
 - *Our witness to others under the Lordship of Christ*
 - *How we live – not only for the benefit of self; but MORE so for the benefit of OTHERS.*



- *How are we carrying on the fire of social holiness among ourselves as a people call Methodist?*
- *Have the blessings of God ironically hardened our hearts towards the poor and needy?*



Tim Chester

- *“Proclamation will be central to Christian involvement with the poor because the greatest need of the poor – along with all people – is to be reconciled with God through the Gospel. **But the message we proclaim is best understood in the context of loving actions and loving community.** We may see reform in society; we may not. The important thing is for the church to witness to the coming liberation of God. We are called to be a jubilee community in which the poor are welcomed, included and strengthened. **We are the place on earth where God’s future can be seen”.***