



WOW: Word Of the Week

Jubilee

October 1, 2025

Jesus is our Jubilee!

[No previous WOW begins with J – or X or Y]

Here are two related words: reboot, reset. Rule (I just made up!). Merely mentioning a word does not forbid me using it in the future. In fact, I would like to hear from you—your ideas about future WOW possibilities.

Finally (the last item in a too-long introduction), thank you to a reader: *It is always amazing to me that your "word" descriptions focus on the exact thing I need to hear. Thanks for your leadership.*

Salute to Frank Viola for some fuel starter for today's WOW. God's wisdom, 3000+ years ago, ancient Israel was instructed to do something that we modern human beings are desperate to learn—how to reboot, how to hit the reset button. Yobel, ram's horn trumpet, announcement of beginning of 50th year, Year of Jubilee.

Old Testament. Year of Jubilee, every 50 years. Jubilee was not just another religious holiday, ceremony, time off work. Jubilee was a radical reboot. Liberty, release of slaves, return of property.

Consider: debts were forgiven. Slaves were freed. Land was returned to original families. Forgiveness, freedom, restoration, renewal.

Why do we like board games? What is the appeal. A frequently told story tells of a grandmother who observed to her grandchildren, "When the Monopoly game is over, all the pieces go back in the box and you start over at GO next time around."

Jubilee was that. A "do over" – hit the reset button, factory defaults.

My grandmother was a superb checkers player. As a youth, playing against her was very frustrating because she would block me every time, game over because I could not move! But...the game pieces went back in the box, and next time we started even again. And eventually, I became a better checkers player.

Adding to reboot and reset, Viola shared a list of Jubilee benefits. Which of these are your favorites?

Deliverance, Equality, Forgiveness, Freedom, Provision, Release, Renewal, Rest, Restoration, Security.

For Christians, Jesus is our Jubilee. He offers a hard reset. He began his ministry (Luke 4) with promises from Isaiah 61—release, healing, liberty. Some stories we know well. Peter gets to start over. A woman is told to go and sin no more. Another woman is changed because of her Jesus encounter. The gospel accounts are filled with Jesus encounters, the list goes on and on...

In Jubilee, what was lost gets restored. That is indeed Good News! The Bible calls it salvation! The old goes away, the new comes. Freedom replaces slavery. Forgiveness eliminates sin-slavery.

If you would like to talk, comment or message me privately. And remember my request—what are your favorite Jubilee realities? You may find your word highlighted in a future WOW!