

If you are a Bible reader, you have probably come across this word in several places.

Shokoa is an old Swahili word meaning “forced laborers” or “bonded workers” especially those who were taken captive and compelled to work under oppression.

For example, in the Bible we see King Solomon taking people as Shokoa:

2 Chronicles 2:17-18

Solomon took a census of all the foreigners residing in Israel, the same census his father David had taken, and they were found to be 153,600. He assigned 70,000 of them to be carriers and 80,000 to be stonemasons in the hills, with 3,600 foremen over them to keep the people working.

Other passages that speak of Shokoa (forced labor) include 1 Kings 5:13, Joshua 17:13, Judges 1:28, Judges 1:30, and others.

And even today, our enemy the devil still takes people as Shokoa. He captures and enslaves them forcing them into sin, sickness, hardship, and fear. Those he has taken captive have no peace, no joy, and no rest. Instead, they are filled with anxiety and hopelessness. All of this happens because they have been taken as captives (Shokoa) by the enemy.

But the good news is this: there is One anointed by God to end captivity. When He sets you free, you are truly free. He removes every fear fear of death, fear of trouble, fear of disease and in exchange, He gives peace to your soul. That One is none other than Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn.

When you receive Him into your life, the captivity of the devil over you will be broken and instead, it will be your turn to have authority over him. He will sit under your feet, and when you command him to leave, he will flee in great fear.

If you have not yet received Christ but desire to do so, you can follow this guided prayer of repentance by [clicking here](#) Guided Prayer of Repentance

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