

## THE ANOINTING THE WORD OF GOD

***“As for you, the anointing you received from Him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as His anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in Him”*** (1 John 2:27).

The “Him” mentioned in this verse is Christ, therefore, the **anointing** we have received is from Christ (the Anointed One), and it is real, and will remain in us provided we remain in Christ. However, in 1 John 1:1 the author makes it clear that Christ is the Word of life... ***“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life.”***

Likewise, the opening passage in the book of John talks about the eternal Word, ***“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.”*** Hence we can safely assume that Christ and the Living Word are the same Person! The question I would like to answer is this, “Is the **anointing** we have received, from the Holy Spirit or from God’s Word (according to 1 John 2:27)?” It may very well be that John had both the Holy Spirit and the Word of God in mind when he refers to the **anointing** but the answer may affect the way we view the anointing.

In 1 John 2:24 it says, ***“Let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.”*** This is clearly a reference to the earthly life and ministry of Jesus Christ - the living Word that was heard.

And this strengthens the case for the anointing coming from the Word of God (in verse 27). Now, I am fully aware that any Word we receive, without the Holy Spirit is lifeless and void of power, however, it is the source of the **anointing** that we are trying to determine. If the source is solely the Holy Spirit then it would be acceptable to argue that we do not need anyone to teach us. The Spirit could impart anything we need to know without outside influence. But this is a dangerous exercise because we then have nothing to measure it against. And we know that everything should be measured against God's infallible Word! Thinking that all one needs (in order to learn) is the Holy Spirit to impart knowledge is opening yourself up to exactly what the verse is warning us about - counterfeit anointing!

I believe that the **anointing** mentioned in 1 John 2:27 comes from Christ (the Living Word), and this **anointing** teaches us through the revelation we receive from God's word. The Word is anointed to accomplish God's plans and intentions! Therefore, for the purpose of today's line of reasoning, the verse may read, ***"As for you, the anointing you received from the Word remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as Christ's anointed Word teaches you about all things and as that anointed Word is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in Christ."*** That makes perfect sense and encourages believers to depend both on the Holy Spirit and God's infallible Word. They should be inseparable! In John 16:14 Jesus said concerning the Holy Spirit, ***"He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you."*** The Holy Spirit takes from the Living Word and reveals it to us.

Notice also that the anointed Word you have received *"remains in you - as Christ remains in you!"* In John 14:10 Jesus declared, ***"The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works."*** Here we see the same principle working in the Lord's earthly ministry.

The anointed words Jesus spoke He did not speak by His own authority (anointing), but the Father who was abiding in Jesus watched over and performed His word. The Lord said to Jeremiah, ***“I am ever-ready to perform My word”*** (Jeremiah 1:12). And nothing has changed!

God is ever-ready to perform His Word! But how can we be sure of that? As much of the time Christians don't experience the benefits of God's anointed Word being fulfilled in their lives. In Isaiah 55:11 the Lord God declared, ***“So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void (empty), It shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”*** This verse implies that God's word is sent to be returned! It comes down, to go back up! Otherwise the verse would read, *“So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth, it shall accomplish what I please and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”* Yet, this phrase is added in the middle, *“It shall not return to Me empty.”* It sounds like God expects His word to come back to Him, but with something added! He expects something to fill the void! That being the case, I believe that God's word must be returned with **faith** added. Faith is the substance that fills any void in God's word. Only then can the next statement be fulfilled by God: *“It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.”*

**Faith** compels God to watch over His word to perform it. Hebrews 11 says that faith is a *“substance.”* Faith is the only substance that can infuse God's word and make it acceptable to Him when it is returned. Without **faith** it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6), therefore, any word returned to God that is void of faith does not please Him. The result of having a lack of faith in God's Word is that He cannot **anoint** it or perform it. *The level of faith you add to the Word will determine the level of results you receive from the word.* This is why Jesus commended the centurion in Matthew 8:10, ***“Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.”***

Why? Because the centurion had shown complete faith in the Lord's word, **"Just say the word, and my servant will be healed."** We too must have complete faith in God's anointed Word. Remember the words of Mary when the angel of the Lord appeared to her? **"Let it be done according to your word."** So here is the spiritual principle we have discovered... God sends us His word, but He expects it to come back to Him full of faith. That way He is able and willing to perform exactly what had left His mouth in the first place! God watches over His word to perform it! God causes it to prosper in the thing for which He sent it! It's simple... God sends - to receive - to perform! But everything hinges on whether the "word" returned has been infused with **faith** or not! Faith is the only substance that causes God's word to prosper. So how do we get the kind of faith that is pleasing to God; the kind of **faith** that compels God to perform His word?

John 8:47 tells us, **"He who is of God hears God's words."** We also read earlier, **"Let that abide in you which you heard"** (1 John 2:24). So here is another observation... **"Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word (rhema) of God"** (Romans 10:17). The word that God sends out is "logos" and the word that is returned is "rhema" - the **Word of faith!** Both "logos" and "rhema" are spoken by God, but only one has been received (heard) and infused with faith! Every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God is meant to be injected with the divine substance called **faith**. Without this process God does not have a Word that is pleasing to Him, and therefore, it is not anointed. A sure way of returning God's word so that it's pleasing to Him is to confess it and then act on it! Faith always acts on the word received! Faith is not afraid to do and boldly declare what the Word says! Faith already acts as if the Word is **anointed** to accomplish anything God has promised. When you speak God's word, have you the conviction that says, "God said it, and that settles it!"

We see that one way of returning God's Word is by confessing it - we confess with our mouth what we believe in our heart (Romans 10:9). And this is in line with 1 John 2:27, ***"As for you, the anointing you received from the Word remains in you."*** When we make a faith-filled confession, we are in fact releasing the **anointing** that is already in us! What's more, Faith filled-words returned to God are *anointed* (consecrated) to be performed by the very Person who spoke them out in the first place. This process ensures that God's Word will never fail or be void of power. Not in His prophecies of what is still to come and not in His promises to us today.

God says that He has magnified His word above His name and watches over His word to perform it. Therefore, don't fret if everything doesn't happen immediately. Hebrews 10:35-39 declares, ***So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised. For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. But My righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.***

Now, I'd like you to take a Word that you have received from God and infuse it with faith. I'm sure you have received a promise that you have been standing on! Once you taken hold of this Word, together, we are going to... "Hold up His word, and return it to Him! I am fully persuaded that God will respond by performing His word! ***"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void (empty), It shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."*** God's anointed Word is not void of power!