

THE ANOINTING - CHRIST ON ME

Today I will continue on the subject of **the anointing** and examine how it operates in a believer's life. We all need to understand the anointing for it to be as effective in our lives as it was in the Jesus' ministry. When talking of the coming Christ, in Isaiah 11:2, it says: ***"The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord."*** Later, in Isaiah 61:1 (the passage that Jesus quoted; which stated precisely the details of His earthly mission), it says: ***"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound."*** I want you to notice two things here, (1) the Spirit of the Lord rested upon Christ, and (2) the Spirit of the Lord anointed Christ. The anointing was as a direct result of the Spirit of God "resting upon" Christ, and that is why Jesus was able to do all the mighty deeds of power.

Kenneth Copeland defines the anointing as, *"God on flesh doing those things that flesh cannot do." It is God doing those things only He can do, and doing them through a flesh-and-blood, earthen vessel* (2 Corinthians 4:7). Again, we see the it is God ON flesh doing things! Have you spotted something? We are often very aware of Christ IN us, ***the hope of glory*** (as mentioned in my recent sermon "Christ in Us - The True Measure"), but what we fail to realise is that the **anointing rests upon** us! To prove this principle, let's examine what the word "anointing" means and some of its usages in both the Old and New Testament. The basic meaning of the word "anoint" is; *"to pour on, smear all over, or rub into"* - with perfumed oil, milk, water, or other substances. People and things were **anointed** to symbolise the introduction of a sacramental or divine influence, a holy by-product, a spirit or a power.

In the Old Testament, anyone who was separated by God, for special service to God, had oil poured or smeared on him. For instance, Saul, and later David, was anointed with oil by the prophet Samuel when God revealed that He had chosen him to be king of Israel. When King Saul rebelled against God and tried to kill David, David refused to harm him because Saul was **"the Lord's anointed"** (1 Samuel 24:6). According to the Torah, whenever someone was **anointed** with the specific Holy anointing oil, according to the ceremony described in Exodus 30:22-25, the Spirit of God came upon this person, to qualify him or her for a God-given task. Hence, such a person was a separated and consecrated vessel (chosen by God Himself) to perform a specific function. And for that reason, he was empowered according to his individual assignment. We must remember that the level of anointing was specific to the call of God!

This form of anointing was also employed in the sanctification of the Tabernacle, all its furniture and utensils (Exodus 30:26-29), and at the consecration of the priests (Exodus 30:30). That which speaks of the sweet aroma of Christ was put on all that foreshadowed Him. The vessels of the sanctuary represented various offices and services of our great High Priest, some performed by Jesus when here on earth, and others in which He is now engaged in heaven. These specific spices that were added gave fragrance to the oil, and the **anointing oil** was the liquid through which their aroma was released (Exodus 30:22-30). We know that all the graces manifested by Christ when He was here upon the earth were according to the Spirit (Isaiah 11:1, 2), and were all in the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:1, 14), But they were each represented by the various spices Moses was asked to blend together and smear on the ark of the covenant, the furniture and all the utensils in the Tabernacle. It was by means of the Holy **anointing oil** that the sweet spices were blended together. This Holy oil pervaded all and united all. The fragrance of the spices was to be evenly diffused through the ointment so that no one spice took precedence over the other.

Yet, the oil sent forth the sweetness of each individual without diminishing the other. Just like the Body of Christ is today! The Christ, God's **anointed**; (Himself smeared all over with the power of God's Spirit), blended the various fragrances of His divine character into one Holy perfume; and then He poured it on, and smeared it all over, very one of us! His name (that which represents and reveals the Person and character of God Almighty) was, and ever is, "*as ointment poured forth*" (Song of Songs 1:3).

The **anointing** is God's divine character manifested by the Holy Spirit. The **anointing**, resting upon Jesus, was applied by the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:18; Acts 10:38). Likewise, the **anointing** which we have received from Jesus is a Holy ointment; made up of all the Lord's divine characteristics that have been smeared upon us by the Holy Spirit. This **anointing oil** is God's attributes and **power**, and it was given to equip us for His service here on this earth. Jesus has graciously provided the same presence of the Holy Spirit, through the same anointing process, for us to do what He has done - and even greater things than these! When we say that we have been "clothed with Christ," we are in fact confessing that we have been smeared all over with this Holy anointing oil. "***For as many of you as were baptised into Christ [into a spiritual union and communion with Christ, the Anointed One] have put on (clothed yourselves with) Christ***" (Galatians 3:27 - AMP).

The word "Christ" is not just another name for Jesus, but a reference to God's Anointed and the Anointing that was on Him and in Him. In the same way, the word "Christians" means more than just followers of Jesus, it means "God's anointed followers." We are anointed vessels of honour! Therefore, the same yoke-destroying, devil-bashing, sickness-defeating **anointing** that was on Jesus has been poured upon you and me. What's more, it has been smeared and rubbed into every aspect of our being!

Like Jesus we can boldly declare, *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for He has **anointed** me to complete every assignment of God here on earth. Yes, I am clothed with Christ, and therefore, I have the same **anointing** that He has, and this will cause me to do exactly what He did. The **power** of the Almighty God, as represented by His Holy Spirit will manifest in every situation and cause victory to be established.”* And don't forget, the greater the mission - the greater the anointing! So always aim high!

I encourage you, find every reference that uses the word “Christ” in the New Testament, and each time Christ is used translate it into “the Anointed and His Anointing.” Remember this, you are IN the Anointed, but you also operate THROUGH His anointing! Then meditate on the new revelation of this meaning in each scripture. Start with the verses that say, “in Christ” or “through Christ”; and translate them “in the Anointed and through His Anointing.” It will change your life! If you're “in Christ,” there's an anointing through which you can do all things, no matter how small or how great they may seem. That's what the Apostle Paul meant when he said, **“I can do all things through Christ (His Anointing) *which* strengthens me”** (Philippians 4:13). Notice that he didn't say, “Who strengthens me”, but “which strengthens me.” He was talking about the **anointing**! The same **anointing** that enabled you to be born again will heal your body, help you succeed in business, and empower you to prosper - spirit, soul, body - and deal effectively with every aspect of your life.

Envisage yourself, right now, as having the Holy **anointing oil** poured upon you, and thus being smeared with all the divine characteristic of God. From top to toe, see yourself covered with an **anointing** that cannot be denied or removed. And every day confess that you are God's **anointed** vessel - separated, sanctified and ready for His use! Thereafter, expect the anointing that is upon you to become more and more visible. And that is done by the demonstration of power that the Holy Spirit releases.