

REVIVE CHURCH

ANOINTING #3 HISTORY OF THE ANOINTING

I am continuing the study of the Holy Spirit and His anointing. The past couple of weeks we've looked at what grieves the Holy Spirit and how to exercise our minds and hearts to not lose awareness of His presence. Again, **this is the most important relationship that we have, the gift of God's resting fellowship upon our lives.** How yielded our heart is to the leadership of the Lord and our willingness to take time in adoration and worship, study of the word has a lot to do with our growth in the area.

It's possible that we could walk with such an awareness that we know when his conscious presence has lifted. **His felt presence is wonderful there's nothing more peaceful or strengthening then when the heavenly dove descends and rests upon us.** *There's not only peace when He is present but also the presence of His mind, clear thinking, courage, and confidence. The sense that God is in complete control and there's no need to worry or have any anxiety* Psalm 112:7 says **"No Fear of bad news"**. Again the reminder from last week was set our minds on the things of the spirit and not on the things of the flesh. (Romans 8:5)

Colossians 3:2 **Set your minds on things above, Not on things of the earth.**

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Lord, fully divine like the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is not an it but a Him! If we say we want revival, we want a move of God. We are ultimately saying we want the presence of purity, power and complete leadership of the ungrieved Holy Spirit of God to dwell upon us and to display his fullness; including His fruit as well as His gifts, His purity as well as His power. His character which is the character of Jesus as seen in the gospels.

This fellowship requires a deep sensitivity and willingness to remain humble, broken, needy and a willingness to follow the voice of Jesus wherever he takes us. **We need to remember and never lose sight of the life of Jesus Christ, His love and passion for the Father and His love and passion for people, His tenderness, humility gentleness, compassion. Jesus had the Spirit without measure and lived in oneness with the Father. That's what the anointing looks like!**

Pigeons and doves

I am using several of RT. Kendall's books as resources because I have been so ministered to by them and the Holy Spirit has used them to expand my heart for a true and authentic move of God. **One of his focuses is about discerning what is truly the Holy Spirit verses what looks like the Holy Spirit, (the dove) but are actually pigeons (flesh).** **In his book *pigeon religion*, he makes a comparison of pigeons and doves who to the untrained eye look almost exactly alike but their behavior is remarkably different.** He defines pigeon religion as the encroachment of

any teaching ministry or practice that you thought was a dove, the authentic Holy Spirit but turned out to be a pigeon or counterfeit, in a word the flesh and not the spirit.

An Episcopalian priest visiting America many years ago stated “*if the Holy Spirit were taken completely from the church, 90% of the work of the church would go right on as if nothing had happened!*” **This can also be true of our personal lives that many of us are going through the motions of Christian activity that has no touch or Presence of God upon it, no felt presence of his wonder and power.** The reality is there is one antidote it is the anointing. The anointing is the power of the Holy Spirit yet there our depths in facets of understanding that we are invited to grow in.

1 John 2:26-27 (NKJV) 26 These things I have written to you concerning those who [try to] deceive you. 27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

Understanding the anointing

The anointing is a divine gift of power that operates with ease when it is active upon you."

Every individual needs to understand how God has empowered you by the Holy Spirit to accomplish his purposes in and through you.

- It does not mean that all that functions easily in your life is your anointing. Some things we can be good at that are not actually the anointing at all.
- The anointing however leads to what is good, it blesses God and blesses and encourages others. Its function is carried out with ease and without strain or fatigue it is also self edifying.
- When the anointing is working it's as natural and easy for our gift to function as eating or talking with friends. The gift is always there but doesn't always function easily. The anointing of that gift is what makes it function with ease.
- The beauty of the operational system of the anointing is that it's individualized for each person so that whether you're a teacher a nurse the janitor a businessman or a pastor we are all invited to journey with the Lord and dive into the depths of Jesus love for us and through us by the anointing. The possibility of the anointing is there all the time and we never know when God will manifest himself in an unusual way.

God will not do our part and we cannot do his. There is definitely the mystery of His sovereign movement when the wind will blow when the fire will be released ETC. Our part however is to walk in preparedness live in the word of God, live in the love of Jesus, live connected through

prayer, live connected to other believers continually growing in our upward relationship to God and our outward relationship to people and follow Him as we sense Him moving.

Gift and anointing are words that can sometimes be used interchangeably. However, you can operate in a gift and it may not be anointed; we should pray for anointing on our gifts and long for more of the Holy Spirit to rest upon our lives and function powerfully to bring revelation of Jesus Christ. It is promised that the Holy Spirit is our teacher and he will teach us all things and will guide us into all truth that's found in **John 14:26 and 16:13**. Next to the gift of salvation, the anointing is our most precious possession. The person of the Holy Spirit releasing His power.

Anointing symbolized:

- **Consecration** (set apart for God's service)
- **Empowerment** (Spirit of God coming upon someone)
- **Authority & Appointment** (chosen for a task or office)

Here are the five ways the anointing is used in the Old Testament to give us a greater understanding of the anointing in its completeness so that we realize how huge of a deal that it is that the precious anointing of the Holy Spirit is given to every believer.

1. **Exodus 30:25 (NKJV)** “And you shall make from these a holy anointing oil, an ointment compounded according to the art of the perfumer. It shall be a holy anointing oil. This oil was used to anoint the tents of meeting, the ark of the testimony, the table in all its articles, basically everything was to be consecrated by the anointing oil. The anointing was said to be on holy things.
2. **The anointing referred to the consecration of priests.** The same oil that anointed holy things was poured on Aaron's head and on his sons. This was a very serious thing; they were commanded not to leave the entrance to the tent of meeting or you will die because the Lord's anointing oil is on you. The priest had charge of the anointing oil. (**Lev.8,10,21,Num.4:16**)
3. **The anointing refers to the consecration of kings.** The first occasion for this was when Samuel anointed Saul when he took a flask of oil and poured it on Saul's head, kissed him saying “**has not the Lord anointed you leader over his inheritance.**” (**1Sam.10:1**)
4. **The anointing became closely connected to the Holy Spirit.** Soon after Saul was anointed by Samuel, the Spirit of God came on him in power. God changed Saul's heart and he prophesied. Later when Samuel anointed David who had no crown like Saul, he was immediately empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

1 Samuel 16:13 (NKJV) Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

So the oil was the symbol of God's Holy Spirit and yet the Holy Spirit manifested himself in His power where this oil had been poured, **so the anointing of oil was much more than a symbol.** We see this later when Jesus sends out the 12 disciples giving them authority over evil spirits **Mark 6:13** tells us they drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them so the oil was more than a symbol it seems to have been an instrument or touch point in some sense. This is also revealed in **James 5:14.**

1. **The 5th use of the word did not seem to require any oil at all.** Prophets were said to be anointed in the Old Testament **Psalm 105:15 Do not touch my anointed ones; do my profits no harm.**

Isaiah 61 points to the anointing of God's Messiah the Lord Jesus Christ and there is no reference of literal oil being poured upon Jesus.

The Holy Spirit was present in the Old Testament from the beginning of creation and the anointing of God has always been what has empowered His people. In the new testament under the new covenant *we see the power of the Holy Spirit being poured upon the believers at Pentecost to anoint and empower them to accomplish what Jesus Christ had commissioned them to do.* The **anointing is what lay behind Stephen's face** shining like the face of an Angel and the reason the Jews could not stand up against the wisdom or the spirit by whom he spoke in **Acts 6:15.** **The anointing is the reasons Moses face was radiant.** The anointing is what enabled Elijah to challenge the prophets of Baal and have fire fall from the sky.

The anointing is what enabled Peter who had denied Christ to a servant girl several weeks before to preach to thousands of Jews on the day of Pentecost where 3000 were suddenly converted. It's also how he could heal a lame beggar who had never walked before. The anointing has rested on men and women of God throughout the ages who have yielded their life in love for Jesus empowered by the Holy Spirit to do impossible things. It is His precious anointing that empowers our worship and builds a throne for Christ as we begin to sing. It is the anointing that brings conviction as the word is preached and God begins to beckon sinners come home and it is the anointing of the Holy Spirit that will transform your workplace and make your home a dwelling place.

COMMUNION

Home Groups

1. Discuss what happens to you when you are spiritually aware of the felt or manifest Presence of the Holy Spirit on your life? When was the last time you experienced this?
2. How do you discern when the anointing of The Holy Spirit is at work in and through your life?
3. Discuss this definition -**The anointing is a divine gift of power that operates with ease when it is active upon you.**"
4. Have you discovered your anointing? How are you using it?
5. After a greater understanding of anointing in the Old Testament how does it make you feel that God has entrusted you with the precious gift of His Spirit?