

Serve

Some three thousand years ago there was a revolution, a radical paradigm shift occurring in Israel's leadership. King Saul still reigned as King of a unified Israeli Nation but, he had sinned against Adonai. God's presence, His spirit had departed from King Saul yet Saul was still anointed to be king though his days would be numbered.

In the body of believers today there is a lot of misunderstanding and confusion regarding anointing and what it means. The term anointed is misused, misunderstood, and used out of context. What does it mean to be "anointed?" Anointing has various uses associated with it. Those various uses, understandings and applications are bound together in that each involves the application of Olive Oil being rubbed on the person or object being anointed. Anointing is a consecration; to be set aside for service. A young Saul was anointed by Shmuel in:

I Samuel 9:15-16. The day before Sha'ul arrived, ADONAI had given Sh'mu'el a revelation: ¹⁶ "Tomorrow at about this time I will send you a man from the territory of Binyamin. You are to anoint **(mashach {maw-shakh'}: to smear, rub, anoint, spread a liquid, to consecration-root word for Ma'Shiach)** him prince over my people Isra'el. He will save my people from the power of the P'lishtim, because I have seen my people's situation, and their cry of distress has come to me."

The articles in the Mishkahn and Temple, Aaron and his sons as High Priests, all were Mashach, anointed for service, consecrated unto Adonai. Anointing is performed by pouring, rubbing, or smearing of sacred Olive oil upon the person or item. Mashiach means anointed one and refers to Yeshua the Messiah, in the Greek its "chrio" which is the root word of Christo which means anointed one in Greek, or in English: "Christ".

I Samuel 16 records David being chosen as the next king by Samuel who anointed David with that special Olive oil from a horn of Oil. The same exact way Saul had been anointed by Samuel. It didn't mean David was King when he was anointed, it meant he was consecrated, set aside for the service of King unto God as the future King of Israel.

The anointing is commonly confused with the power of the Ruach HaKodesh and God's Glory, the Shekinah. Either I'm anointed by God to be the Rabbi here or I'm not. The anointing can't increase or decrease, I'm simply anointed or not. A **Young** David (Between 12-15 years old) was anointed by Samuel to be King of Israel. David would not assume the throne until Adonai dealt with Saul and removed him from his position. This took some 15-17 years through the Goliath

struggle. IN this struggle David offered Saul to fight Goliath. King Saul looks at David, and the confidence David displays, yet has doubts because of his age:

I Samuel 17:32-33. David said to Sha'ul, "No one should lose heart because of him; your servant will go and fight this P'lishti." ³³ Sha'ul said to David, "You can't go to fight this P'lishti -you're just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth!"

Again, given the ambiguity of the order of events in I Samuel 16 and 17, it is somewhat assumed that Saul already knows David from his service as Saul's harpist (I Samuel 16:21). The Hebrew word na'ar, translated as "youth" (v. 33), is a word to describe an older teenager. Service unto Adonai starts in your youth like Jeremiah!

Jeremiah 1:5-7. "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I separated you for myself. I have appointed you to be a prophet to the nations." ⁶ I said, "Oh, Adonai ELOHIM, I don't even know how to speak! I'm just a child!" ⁷ But ADONAI said to me, "Don't say, 'I'm just a child.' "For you will go to whomever I send you, and you will speak whatever I order you.

Adonai uses whom He desires, often young people! Like Yeshua's Talmidim, all teenagers except Kefa! In Matthew 17 when the Temple Tax collector came to Capernaum and asked Kefa if Yeshua paid the half shekel Temple tax? Kefa asked Yesua who said to Kefa in:

Matthew 17:27. But to avoid offending them -- go to the lake, throw out a line, and take the first fish you catch. Open its mouth, and you will find a shekel. Take it and give it to them for me and for you."

Who Pays this tax?

Exodus 30:13-14. Everyone subject to the census is to pay as an offering to ADONAI half a shekel [one-fifth of an ounce of silver]- by the standard of the sanctuary shekel (a shekel equals twenty gerahs). ¹⁴ Everyone over twenty years of age who is subject to the census is to give this offering to ADONAI -

Scripture reminds kingdom adults to guide, mentor, instill discipline, and provide opportunities for youth to exercise faith through service, worship, and leadership. Scripture calls for early spiritual formation, stressing the need to connect young people with God's Word and practices while they are receptive for them to serve Adonai. Yeshua said in:

Matthew 20:28. For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve -- and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Serve in the Greek is: diakoneo: to serve, to do anyone a service, to help. Sha'ul also says a slave of Messiah, doulos the work is involuntary. Serving is done with the heart.

In the meantime, because David became popular with the people. Saul's jealousy raged against David. Saul sought to kill David. This was the transition time, between Kingdom power bases when Saul was on the way out and David was preparing to come into his reign. Those citizens of Israel who were attuned to God, heard Adonai's voice, and were attentive knew what was unfolding. People started flocking unto David as recorded in:

I Chronicles 12:1. Following are the men who joined David at Ziklag while he was still being kept away from Sha'ul the son of Kish; they were among the warriors who helped **(oz'rey: help, support, to serve, aid)** him fight his battles.

Some 340,822 soldiers were in David's army at Ziklag not including those who supported David from afar. This staggering number not only attests to David's moral support but is striking regarding the number who travelled from afar to demonstrate it. They came to serve the new king! We are at a similar paradigm shift, a similar transition is occurring today. The presence of God is departing from mainstream religion. Apostasy, estrangement, rebellion, general rejection of God is or has caused His presence to depart from most places today!

When we talk about servanthood, we mean more than just doing work for someone else. After all, people who aren't connected with Yeshua can serve. People can do good deeds for others, but that is not what we mean by servanthood. People can also serve out of wrong motives—to gain self-worth, to call attention to themselves, to assuage guilt, etc. Serving from wrong motives is not servanthood.

Servanthood is a humble, obedient reliance on the Father, birthed by an awareness of His unconditional love, which is expressed by action to benefit others, and carried out in the power of the Holy Spirit. Servanthood may involve a menial or hidden task, but it may also involve a very public deed done without concern for one's reputation or gain.

We are in a transition of power bases, the world's power base is departing and a new king is coming! Those who are attuned, those who hear the voice of the Lord are flocking to the new kingdom base, the Messianic base in preparation for the new King, Yeshua who will reign in the Messianic age, messianic Kingdom. Like those amazing warriors, men and women of renown, of character, integrity, honor, warriors and pioneers! There is one peculiar group here that I wish to focus upon.

I Chronicles 12:32. Of the descendants of Yissakhar, men who understood the times and knew what Isra'el ought to do, there were 200 leaders, and all their kinsmen were under their command.

When God ends one season (Sa'ul's reign was coming to an end) and begins another (David was soon to take his reign) Adonai has to end, or destroy the old previous institutions. The leaders, the men of Issachar had discernment, they understood the epoch of time in which they live, they were prepared, they were ready for the transition. They recognized NOT what they should do, but what ISRAEL should do. They knew that the previous institutions and structures were ending, that Adonai was initiating a new season, with a new king and new institutions.

Issachar means recompense—"God has given me" as Leah proclaimed upon his birth was the ninth (nine represents the Ruach HaKodesh) son of Jacob and the fifth son of Leah. The tribe of Issachar was positioned strategically on the east side of the Mishkahn/Ohel Moed with Judah and Zebulun. Zebulun, the tenth (Hand of God) son of Jacob and the sixth and last of Leah, meant "dwelling, habitation." Zebulun was the tribe of war, ships, and trade. Judah was the fourth son of Jacob and Leah. His name meant "may He [God] be praised." Judah prophetically was always destined to go first as the war tribe that would conquer. These three tribes are the warriors of Praise that God has given through Yeshua!

The tribes were in a tremendous conflict and transition in I Chronicles 12. There is two Anointed Kings in Israel. The heavenly government was in transition, in turmoil, in the middle of great change. Israel was transitioning from the government of the house of Saul to the government of the house of David. Issachar would gave great insight on how to make this shift.

The incoming king, David was a man of justice. Like Abraham and Moses before him, he was a man after Gods own heart! Unlike Saul, David possessed great intimacy, a great awareness, recognition, submission, service to Adonai. His time in the wilderness guarding his father's flock trained him how to serve Adonai in trust, in power, in praise and worship, and in Love! What does a servant king look like who has placed Adonai as the ruler of his life? Let's look and see how they apply to our young people:

- **He was fully aware of his need for intimacy with Abba Father, with Adonai. He was a man after Gods own heart. David knew how to worship!**
- **He was consumed by desire, a zealous hunger for Adonai, for His Word, for his presence. His only request of God when confronted by Nathan regarding his sin**

with Bathsheba was his pleading and begging that Adonai's presence not depart from him. Unlike Saul, David was quick to confess and repent of his wrong doings, of his sins.

- He purposed himself to serve, to serve Adonai, to serve others. Even through Saul was trying to kill him he served Israel by protecting his nation from enemy raids and attacks. He served those who stayed with the woman and children while the others fought, he served Adonai with unbridled passion as he danced before the

I Chronicles 12:38. All these soldiers who were experienced in war came to Hebron wholeheartedly **(Shalem: complete, safe, peaceful, perfect, whole, wholeheartedly, at peace, complete, a covenant of peace)** to make David king over all Isra'el, and all the rest from Isra'el were single-hearted in wanting to make David king.

We can conclude from the list of warriors who joined David in Ziklag that his ragtag team was diverse, loyal, humble, hungry for victory, and came to serve. What did David do to produce such a mighty army? He served them.

1.He was relational: David's personable, approachable manner in humility enticed hundreds of misfit volunteers to serve him. David accepted all.

2.He was resourceful: David made use of every situation and got the best out of it-even in the wilderness. He empowered his team to become all it could be and enabled it to succeed.

3.He was rewarding: David quickly shared both rewards and recognition for victory. He affirmed his men and motivated them with words of encouragement and spoils from battle.

4.He was respectable: David modeled a servant leader style that Yeshua Himself modeled. David's Friends and foes alike respected him. People saw in David a profound example of servant leadership. Here is the foundational key regarding the men of Issachar, leaders who knew what Israel should do:

Why did over 340,000 warriors, men of renown come to David in Ziklag? To serve. In Sha'ul's own words Yeshua appeared to him during his "Road to Damascus" to do what:

Acts 26:16. But get up, and stand on your feet! I have appeared to you to appoint you to serve **(huperetes {hoop-ay-ret'-ace}: servant, subordinate, to serve)** and bear witness to what you have already seen of me, and to what you will see when I appear to you in the future.

In fact, if we go back to one of the earliest scriptural mentioned of service we see that we are commanded by Adonai to serve:

Exodus 23:25. You are to serve **(Avad: work, serve, to work for another, serve another by labour, to serve as subjects, to serve Adonai, to make oneself a servant)** ADONAI your God; and he will bless your food and water. I will take sickness away from among you.

Here is what's amazing, Service is the core tenant, the core foundation of Love. When You serve Adonai He will bless your provision and heal you! He will take away your sickness and disease!

Psalm 2:11. Serve **(Avad: work, serve, to work for another, serve another by labour, to serve as subjects, to serve Adonai, to make oneself a servant)** ADONAI with fear; rejoice, but with trembling.

We are commanded to Love the Lord our God with all of our heart, all of our soul, and all of our strength. How do we develop and build that Love? Service! The highest marriage success rate in the world is among those whose parents arrange the marriage. True success isn't the individual picking whom they think is the perfect match. It's two people who don't know each other serving each other, that builds love. You will love those whom you serve. Are you having marital problems? Serve your spouse! Are you having work difficulties? Serve your boss! Are you in a dry zone in the Kingdom? Serve Adonai!!!! Its our ultimate purpose ad destiny:

Philippians 2:6-9. Though he was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God something to be possessed by force. ⁷ On the contrary, he emptied himself, in that he took the form of a slave **(doulos {doo'-los}: slave, servant, attendant, bondman, devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests)** by becoming like human beings are. And when he appeared as a human being, ⁸ he humbled himself still more by becoming obedient even to death - death on a stake as a criminal! ⁹ Therefore God raised him to the highest place and gave him the name above every name;

We all know were at war, a war between light and darkness, a cultural war of morality and righteousness! As servants of the Most High God whom we serve we are His beacons of light and hope! We are the hope in the face of hopelessness! As John 3:16 states the Gods so love the world that He sent his only Son who served us in love by dying for us as our sacrifice even yet while we were still in sin, still estranged from God!

Galatians 5:13-14. For, brothers, you were called to be free. Only do not let that freedom become an excuse for allowing your old nature to have its way. Instead, serve one another in love. ¹⁴ For the whole of the Torah is summed up in this one sentence: "Love your neighbor as yourself";

Young people, I'm challenging you this evening to serve one another! Serve your generation, serve your peers! It's Gods mandate! Our service to Adonai and each others builds and releases unconditional love, and that's how the world will know us!

John 13:35. Everyone will know that you are my talmidim by the fact that you have love for each other."

1. Prayer for a Humble servants Heart for our young people:

"Lord, teach them to serve without seeking recognition. Let their hands be quick to help, their words gentle to heal, and their heart open to love. May they see every act of service as a gift back to You."

2. Prayer for Strength in Service

"Father, when their energy fades, renew their spirit. Remind them that serving others is not a burden but a blessing. Help them to give with joy, patience, and grace, even in the smallest tasks."

3. Prayer for a Servant's Vision

"God, open their eyes to the needs around them. Show them where they can bring comfort, hope, and kindness. Let their life reflect Your compassion, so that others may feel Your love through their actions."