

ZOOM STUDY: IMPORTANT BIBLICAL SYMBOLS

ANOINTING

1.) What is included in the act of anointing someone?

2.) In the Old Testament God had a proprietary recipe for anointing oil that was only to be used at his direction. What was its intended purpose?

Exodus 30:22-32 Then the LORD said to Moses, ²³ “Take the following fine spices: 500 shekels of liquid myrrh [about 12 lbs], half as much (that is, 250 shekels) of fragrant cinnamon, 250 shekels of fragrant cane, ²⁴ 500 shekels of cassia—all according to the sanctuary shekel—and a hin [about 4 liters] of olive oil. ²⁵ Make these into a sacred anointing oil, a fragrant blend, the work of a perfumer. It will be the sacred anointing oil. ²⁶ Then use it to anoint the Tent of Meeting, the ark of the Testimony, ²⁷ the table and all its articles, the lampstand and its accessories, the altar of incense, ²⁸ the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and the basin with its stand. ²⁹ You shall consecrate them so they will be most holy, and whatever touches them will be holy. ³⁰ Anoint Aaron and his sons and consecrate them so they may serve me as priests. ³¹ Say to the Israelites, ‘This is to be my sacred anointing oil for the generations to come. ³² Do not pour it on men’s bodies and do not make any oil with the same formula. It is sacred, and you are to consider it sacred.’ ”

3.) What were the three offices/roles into which a person could be anointed by God?

Exodus 29:21 “And take some of the blood on the altar and some of the anointing oil and sprinkle it on Aaron and his garments and on his sons and their garments. Then he and his sons and their garments will be consecrated.”

1 Kings 1:39 Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the sacred tent and anointed Solomon. Then they sounded the trumpet and all the people shouted, “Long live King Solomon!”

1 Kings 19:16 “Anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet.”

4.) What often accompanied anointing by the LORD in the Old Testament?

1 Samuel 10:1, 6-7 Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on Saul’s head and kissed him, saying, “Has not the LORD anointed you leader over his inheritance? ...The Spirit of the LORD will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. Once these signs are fulfilled, do whatever your hand finds to do, for God is with you.”

1 Samuel 16:12-13 Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; he is the one.” So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power.

5.) Jesus, who is true God, ordinarily put aside the use of his divine power and glory when he lived among us (called his state of humiliation). He depended on his heavenly Father for direction and power to fulfill his mission. How and when did the Father officially equip him to save us from our sins?

Luke 3:21-22; 4:1, 14, 18 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." ... Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert... Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit. ... "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor."

Acts 10:38 "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power."

6.) Jesus' saving work corresponds to the three Old Testament offices into which he was anointed. How did Jesus fulfill these roles?

Matthew 4:17 Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

John 12:49-50 "I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."

Hebrews 9:25-26 Nor did [Christ] enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ...But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Hebrews 7:21 [Christ] became a priest with an oath when God said to him: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever.'"

John 18:37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth."

Ephesians 1:20-22 [God] raised [Christ] from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church.

7.) Why does this concept of anointing make your baptism the most important moment in your life?

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 [Christ] anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

Titus 3:5-6 [God] saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.

8.) What have you become through the anointing power of the Holy Spirit at your baptism?

1 Peter 2:9 You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

9.) Give an example of how you serve the Lord as a prophet, a priest, and a king.

Closing Prayer: Messiah Jesus, as Prophet proclaim to us your Word; as Priest, intercede continually on our behalf before your Father; as King, rule for us and lead us to serve you as heirs in this holy estate. Amen.

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