

DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Transformed by Anointing ... by Antish

Read : 1 Samuel 10: 16; Acts 1: 8

- Even if the Holy Spirit was not yet given in the abundance as it prevails in the New Testament, *1 Samuel 10* already gives us the understanding of the transforming power of Anointing. After Saul was anointed by Samuel, *verse 6* shows that Samuel prophesied unto him stating that he would be turned into a 'new' man. The reason of this transformation was the anointing by the Holy Spirit: 'And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them and shalt be turned into another man'. The fundamental idea of the action of the anointing in the Holy Spirit is that a 'new' or 'another' man shall result and manifest.
- This reality was also expressed by Christ in *Acts 1:8*, whereby He told his disciples that 'after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and you shall be witnesses unto me...'. But were the disciples not already witnesses of the Lord at this point? Yes. They indeed witnesses of Him during three years of all His works and teachings, His miracles and wonders, they witnessed His death and resurrection ... But they can witness from their senses, their reasons and their emotions only. There is testimony of men but there is also the testimony of God. *1 John 5:9* states: *If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.* Jesus referred to the witness of the Father unto him as being true 'There is another that beareth witness of me' - *John 5:32*. In some way Jesus was saying to his disciples that when the Spirit would come upon them they will be unto Him witnesses in the same nature the Father witness of Jesus...So we as anointed people, are not witnesses of Christ according to the flesh, senses, or emotions... But according to the Father...we testify of Christ according to the Father when the Spirit comes into our lives...
- How does this happen? The spirit transforms us spiritually to receive God's nature and to function according to God's nature. Remember, when the Spirit came upon Saul, he started to prophesy...in other words, he started to operate in a new nature. This is how transformations works. We saw the same dilemma in Mary when she was announced by angel Gabriel she would be giving birth...*'How shall this be...? - Luke 1:34.* *'The Holy Ghost shall come upon you and the power of the Highest shall overshadow you... Therefore the holy thing that shall be born shall be called the Son of God (v. 35).* There is a supernatural work that comes out of the anointing of the Holy Spirit. It brings a new thing to happen in us.
- Paul explained that those who are in Christ are a new creation (*2 Cor. 5:17*): *'old things are passed away and behold, all things are become new'*. The Greek terminology the word *new* here is *kainos*. This word has several meaning: *novel, unprecedented, unknown, unsued, unworn, fresh or recent*. Paul was saying, that the new thing' we have become never existed before the Spirit of God came, before we were anointed in Christ. It is not a perfection of our selves, it is not our old man becoming better, more perfect, lovelier or holier...It is a complete replacement. Anointing replaces the old by something new and this is why Saul was turned into a new man, Mary could conceive what Heaven was wishing and why the disciples turned into witnesses according to the Father. A completely new state happens in us, we are transformed into his image and what is more important is that anointing is an impartation. It makes possible that what is in God be imparted into our inner lives. When God anoints you, He takes from what is in Him and deposits in you. We then function from the new status. Our old self will have to pass away (die), in order that we can live in the new. Transformation brings a change of nature resulting in a change of identity. We are no longer what we were. We have no claim for ourselves. Anointing claims Christ in us.
- Paul explains this in *Gal. 2:20*: *'I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.'* This is exactly what Anointing does in you...it brings you to the point of crucifying yourself and to let Christ takes over your whole life...Jesus was saying to His disciples, that this is what would happen to them when the Holy Spirit would come upon them. This is what witness means. The anointing allows us to operate from the divine, our lives function from the transformation it produces in us.. We can love according to the standard of Christ, even loving and praying for our enemies, live in obedience to God according to His will...Paul said: *'I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. - Phil. 4:13.* Anointing makes us function from the power that is higher than ourselves. Paul could not say this before the Spirit came in Him. But when the Spirit comes in us... We can do what our old man prevented us to do..we can live from a transformed state in Christ Jesus.

WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Issue 25

Events /Notices

▶ **Late night prayer tonight** at 8.00-11.30pm - no early prayer meeting so Sunday meeting starts at 11.00am

▶ **Marlene is looking for some storage space** for a few weeks until she moves into her new apartment.

▶ **Renovations are scheduled** to begin this week so there may be some disruption to facilities.

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ *Crèche and Pre-school Praise*

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 2-5 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ *Sunday School*

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11)

▶ *Tea and Coffee*

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. (Hebrews 13:2).