



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Works of Anointing ... By Antish

Texts: Luke 4:18-19 & Acts 10:38

- When Jesus said that the '*Spirit of the Lord is upon me*', he put the emphasis on the words 'because he has anointed me'. The Jews who were listening to him understood what he was saying from their Jewish traditions and beliefs. In fact, to say that someone is anointed in the Old Testament was to distinguish that person over the people. Examples are Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Saul, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, etc. Jesus was distinguishing himself from the rest of all the people in proclaiming these words...Peter explained later that the anointing was manifested in Christ in a form of a special anointing by the Holy Spirit and power. In fact, the very term anointing in Scriptures brings us to a form of distinction in the life of a person. However, the works of anointing is not a one instant action. It does not happen all of a sudden. There is a whole chain of actions that is set into motion in anointing.

- 1. Anointing starts by a Calling.** God makes a choice and calls someone out of something into another thing. There is a CALLING OUT for a CALLING IN. The whole works of anointing depends on this. An example is Abraham (*Genesis 12:1-2*). God takes a person out of a system of life to bring him into another system. But all callings of God are in reality a calling to God. Abraham was called out of the world to Himself.

- 2. Anointing Disconnects you from something to Seal you into another.** Your ways of life framed and fashioned from a pagan and an ungodly world will be disconnected from you when anointing is manifested. A punctured tyre has to be removed first before a good one is put on. But as soon as this separation happens anointing brings the Spirit to seal you. This is well explained by Paul in *2 Corinthians 1:21-22*.

'Now he who established us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who has also sealed us and given us the earnest of the spirit in our hearts'.

- Only those who are anointed by God can receive the seal of the Holy Spirit. The seal is manifested by the 'earnest' (deposit or guarantee) of the Spirit in our hearts. When you are anointed, the Holy Spirit sealed a deposit on you and you immediately become a property of God. Something on which a deposit has been placed cannot become the object of any transaction. It is separated and kept apart until it is taken away by the one who sealed it. Many of us think that our lives are just covered by the Holy Spirit. This was a common feature in the Old Testament, because the Spirit was not yet given, and the Spirit manifested sporadically in people's lives. They had the covering. In the New Testament, we have something deeper...we have the seal. A seal is something that cannot be removed from you. It connects your life with eternity, as the spirit of eternity indwells your heart. Anointing is a seal that makes you a person in whom the Spirit of God indwells permanently...It is not just a covering.

- 3. Anointing connects your life with the attributes of the Holy Spirit.** Peter explained in Acts 10:38 that Jesus of Nazareth was anointed by the Holy Ghost and power ... Jesus did not mention power in Luke 4:18, but it was evident that it was the demonstration of power in his anointing that cause him to 'preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised'.

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- This is a work of power as testified by Peter. Anointing connects our lives with the power of God and allows this power to work in our lives as proclaimed by Jesus. This power is stronger than our sickness, chains and captivity and darkness. It is more powerful than sin and curse. It liberates our lives when it manifests. *Isaiah 10:27* said that the yoke is broken because of the anointing...because anointing connects us with the power that is stronger than all our yokes.
- Jesus said that this anointing is what makes him preach the good news to the poor. The poor is a person who is powerless about his situation, he has no power to escape his chains, he cannot deliver himself, nor heal himself, he is helpless and desperate...In *John 6:63*, again Jesus spoke about the Holy Spirit which he proclaimed as being full of the Spirit and life. The Spirit is a liberating force stronger than any stronghold, when the Spirit of God is, liberty is manifested...and life is a demonstration of power at work. Lazarus is a good example where the Word of Jesus crying out into the tomb, carried the power to bring him back to life. If Lazarus had that power he would have done it himself. So, anointing opens to us the access to God's power that gives life.
- **4. Anointing transforms and brings you into a deep relationship with God.** We take the example of Saul. When he was anointed with oil by prophet Samuel (*1 Samuel 10:1-6*), a sequence of things happen in the life of the young man. First Samuel redirected him into a **new way** towards a place called Thabor (*Heb. Barar*). Thabor means 'purge, purify and clean'. Anointing leads to **holiness**. From Thabor (place of holiness) he **was met** with three men. This is a theophany of the Trinity: the Father, giver of the Blood of the Atonement, the Son, the sacrificial lamb of God (bread) and the Holy Spirit bearer of the Blood of Christ unto the Sanctuary (wine) (*Heb 9:14*).
- From Holiness the journey of the Anointing leads to the **fellowship** with the Triune God-head...it is a **direct connection** with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in a total way, The Anointing finally leads to Gibeah of God (image of the Body of Christ), where Saul would meet with prophets where he would be '**changed**' into another man.
- Now it is important for you to know that you are anointed in Christ as a believer. Paul said he has established in Christ and anointed us (*2 Corinthians 1:21*). As such you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and partaker of his power, you are called to holiness and to commune with God in the Highest. The devil has no transaction over your life because of the deposit in you. When Jesus 'proclaimed an acceptable year of the Lord' (*Luke 4:19*), he was speaking of the 'year of jubilee' a year during which, slaves were set free, debts were cancelled and yokes were removed. The devil cannot make any claim over your life in the year of Jubilee. As long as you stand under his anointing, you are standing under 'this acceptable year of the Lord'

Events /Notices

- '**Loving the Refugee**' meeting sponsored by Tear Fund at Adelaide Road Presbyterian church 7.30pm on Monday 23rd.
- **Castledaly manor fellowship weekend away** Friday 10th - Sunday 12th June. See Maressa, Naomi or Edvaldo for details.