



The Anointing with the Holy Spirit and Power

Preparing for God's Anointing on a New Generation

Email: [5foldglobal@gmail.com]

Website: [https://5foldglobal.net]

Mobile App: <http://get.theapp.co/2mwf>



THIS EQUIPPING MANUAL IS DEDICATED IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF THE ANOINTING AND MINISTRY OF 5-FOLD GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL LEADER, EVANGELIST DR. JORAM DOL WHO DEPARTED FOR GLORY ON APRIL 11, 2022, FOLLOWING A STRATEGIC MISSION OPERATION IN UGANDA.

Key Contributors

Dr. Michael D. Gross
Dr. Samuel J. Isong
Bishop James W. Murunga

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are taken from the New King James Version (NKJV) of the Bible.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
A TRIBUTE TO EVANGELIST DR. JORAM DOL	5
CHAPTER 1: THE BIBLICAL FOUNDATION OF THE ANOINTING	6
The Beginning of the Anointing	6
The Priestly Anointing	9
The Kingly Anointing	11
The New Generation Church Anointing	14
CHAPTER 2: NEW LEVEL ANOINTINGS	16
Progressive Levels of the Anointing	16
The Anointing of the Believer	17
The New Level Anointing of Elisha	22
The New Level Anointing of Peter, Stephen, and Philip	26
The New Level Anointing of Paul	29
CHAPTER 3: THE ANOINTING OIL	34
The Missing Oil	34
The Anointed Oil of Consecration	37
The Anointed Oil of Healing	42
The Anointed Oil of Joy	47
CHAPTER 4: THE FIRE ANOINTING	50
The Fire and the Glory	50
Refining Fire	58
Tongues of Fire	63
The Fiery Torch	66
CHAPTER 5: THE BREAKER ANOINTING	72
The Lord of the Breakthrough	72
The Emerging Remnant	77
The Coming of the One who Breaks Open the Gate	80
The Repairer of the Breach	84
CHAPTER 6: OPERATING IN THE ANOINTING	88
Receiving and Releasing the Anointing	88
Flowing in the Anointing	96
Increasing in the Anointing	101
The Corporate Anointing	105
CHAPTER 7: LOOKING AHEAD TO A FRESH ANOINTING	112
Double Portion or Full Measure	112
Sons And Daughters of Fresh Oil	114
The Anointed Shield of Faith	116
Demonstrations of Power	121
The Church on Fire	123
WORKS CITED:	127

INTRODUCTION

The anointing is much more than another topic for biblical study and discussion. It is the essence and manifestation of the presence and ministry of God Himself. The new generation church, for the most part, has yet to experience the anointing. Many are ministering in their own strength. They are not baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire. Those who have experienced Pentecost are now focused on getting sponsors for their church buildings. The anointing is lacking, and the people are only being healed slightly in these religious environments. I believe, the anointing is available to a kingdom remnant mission force raised up by God for the end time harvest of souls on the earth. It is the same anointing that was upon Jesus and the apostles of the Early Church. The anointing, however, appears as something new and fresh to those who first encounter it, but it's the same anointing we read about in the Scriptures.

This equipping manual is not a theological work. If you desire theology, then enroll in a theological school and you will get plenty of it. Some of you are already there. It may take you months or even years to get theology out of your system. Theology will give you knowledge without life *for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life* (2Cor. 3:6). Theology prepares young ministers to practice forms of religion that parades itself as godliness. God portrays them as power deniers *having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away* (2Tim. 3:5)! Theology never saved anyone. It cannot heal. It cannot deliver. It cannot preach and save the lost. Theology has no power. It has no anointing. But the anointing presented in the Scriptures does it all if you can only by faith yield to it and operate in it.

How do you equip a new generation remnant kingdom mission force in the anointing? This will be a real challenge. Therefore, I am enlisting the 5-Fold Global International Faculty to assist in this strategic equipping project. I have personally observed them flowing and ministering in the anointing. I have dedicated this training manual to my beloved partner in the gospel, Evangelist Dr. Joram Dol. Joram displayed an anointing for miracles in all of our 5-Fold Global operations in Africa and Asia over a period of seven years. It saddened us all when he departed for glory on April 11, 2022, but not before 534 salvations, 191 healings, and 112 deliverances that took place at the South Sudan Refugee Settlement Camp inside Uganda.

The new generation church cannot afford to limit the anointing because souls are at stake. It is my prayer that this training manual will be used by God to remove such limitations and cause a fresh activation of the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit to be released through us upon a dark and deeply troubled world in which we live.

Michael D. Gross

5-Fold Global Ministries

A TRIBUTE TO EVANGELIST DR. JORAM DOL

Hello, I'm Pastor and Evangelist Peter Chetri. I would like to pay tribute to a great man of God and my mentor, the late Rev. Dr. Joram Dol. God brought me to know this man of God in 2014. That was the year when I came to Itanagar from Nagaland to serve in the Apostolos Bible College. I still remember his warm welcome. In a short time, we became close and shared a spiritual bond. I love this man of God for his excitement and joy to serve his Lord. I started following him in all programs and crusades in different parts of India. I witnessed how God used this anointed man to heal and to deliver people from the bondage of Satan. Even the deaf heard, the dumb spoke, and limbs were fully restored.

As a young man he helped me to grow in my anointing as I watched him. God started showing me more evidence of what the Scripture says about miracles, signs, and wonders. He was a very simple man from a humble place making a global impact. That's what God can do! I continued to learn under him and made him my spiritual father as I continued to join him in crusades and other programs. Some of his priceless words to me:

- He instructed me to desire more for spiritual gifts.
- He instructed me to dream global.
- He taught me not to give up in trusting the Lord.

He had the heart that cared completely. He had the smile that brought so much pleasure. He had the love that brought joy beyond measure.

I will never forget what he passed on to me, and my responsibility to his words. It is hard to accept that he is no more in this world, and it is too soon that he went to be with the Lord. My heart breaks apart to lose someone like him in my life who has given so much to me. He is in the best place today with Jesus and other saints. I am reminded of Hebrews 12:1-2:

- **Heb. 12:1-2** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

We are surrounded by the cloud of witnesses from heaven looking unto us. Since the torch is passing unto us, I have to run and finish the race of faith. God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the plan you have in knowing this great man of God.

CHAPTER 1: THE BIBLICAL FOUNDATION OF THE ANOINTING

The Beginning of the Anointing

The anointing cannot be approached or treated as just another topic for spiritual leaders and believers to consider from time to time. The anointing and power of the Holy Spirit must be foremost in the operation of the church at all times. Why is this the case? It is because of the source and essence of the anointing itself. This will become very clear as we examine God's word to renew our minds and align ourselves with what I believe will be the greatest release of the anointing the world has ever seen since Jesus and the Apostles of the Early Church.

The Bible talks about the anointing from beginning to end. Words like anoint (34x), anointed (101x), anointing (25x) appear a total of 161 times in the Scriptures. What is so remarkable about these words is that they originate from the Hebrew word for Messiah and its counterpart in the Greek word for Christ. Review the following chart to capture this amazing truth.

Messiah (Anoint, Anointed, Anointing)	Christ (Anoint, Anointed, Anointing)
מָשִׁיחַ mashiyach , <i>maw-shee'-akh</i> ; from 4886; anointed; usually a consecrated person (as a king, priest, or saint); specifically, the Messiah:—anointed, Messiah.	Χριστός Christos , <i>khris-tos'</i> ; from 5548; anointed, i.e. the Messiah, an epithet of Jesus: — Christ. Χριστός Christos , <i>khris-tos'</i> ; from 5548; anointed, i.e. the Messiah, an epithet of Jesus: — Christ.
מָשַׁח mashach , <i>maw-shakh'</i> ; a primitive root; to rub with oil, i.e. to anoint; by implication, to consecrate; also to paint:—anoint, paint.	χρίω chrio , <i>khree'-o</i> ; probably akin to 5530 through the idea of contact; to smear or rub with oil, i.e. (by implication) to consecrate to an office or religious service: — anoint.
מִשְׁחָה mishchah , <i>meesh-khaw'</i> ; or מִשְׁחָה moshchah , <i>mosh-khaw'</i> ; from 4886; unction (the act); by implication, a consecratory gift:—(to be) anointed(-ing), ointment.	χρίσμα chrisma , <i>khris'-mah</i> ; from 5548; an unguent or smearing, i.e. (figuratively) the special endowment ("chrism") of the Holy Spirit: — anointing, unction.

You can see from the above words that the anointing is all about Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One. The truth is that the anointing is an epithet of Jesus. What does this mean? The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines epithet as *a characterizing word or phrase accompanying or occurring in place of the name of a person or thing*. There is no mystery in what is revealed to us about Jesus. The anointing is who He is. The Anointed One is His surname, so to speak. It is the name that appears on His heavenly origin and passport. The anointing goes with Jesus. It is firmly attached to Him and also to His name. And there is power in His name. When you come into contact with Jesus, you are contacting the anointing. Jesus wants to preach the Gospel. He wants to teach the Word. He wants to save souls. He wants to heal the sick. He wants to cast out demons. What does the anointing want to do through you and me? The anointing wants to do the same things because the anointing is Jesus. The anointing flows through Jesus by the Holy Spirit. Jesus preached this truth to those gathered in the synagogue at Nazareth. Years later Simon Peter preached the same truth to the Gentiles gathered in the house of Cornelius. The following table shows these two messages side by side:

Jesus (Luke 4:16-21)	Simon Peter (Acts 10:34-43)
<p>So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. ¹⁷ And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ <i>“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”</i> ²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” (See also Isaiah 61:1-3)</p>	<p>Then Peter opened <i>his</i> mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. ³⁵ But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. ³⁶ The word which <i>God</i> sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all— ³⁷ that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. ⁴⁰ Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, ⁴¹ not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, <i>even</i> to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. ⁴² And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God <i>to be</i> Judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”</p>

How can any of us follow Jesus and deny or limit the anointing? Yet many are doing that today. It is time for Jesus and the anointing to be put on center stage as the number one ministry program of the church.

Because we know from the Scriptures that the Messiah, Jesus, the Christ, the Anointed One, was there from the beginning even before creation, then the anointing was also there at the beginning.

- John 1:1-2 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God.
- John 8:58 Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”
- Heb. 13:8 Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.
- Rev. 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End,” says the Lord, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”
- Rev. 22:13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.”

How do you understand the above Scriptures in light of the anointing? Can you see the importance of the anointing in your life and in your relationship with Jesus? I see young leaders trying so hard to follow Christ and fulfill His calling upon their lives. But most ignore the anointing of Christ and in many respects are operating in their own strength. Do they not understand that the anointing of Christ is the same anointing they have in Christ? Paul reminded the Corinthian believers of this saying, *Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God* (2Cor. 1:21). Their relationship with Christ involved the anointing. They received and carried the same anointing of Christ. In addition, their relationship with the believers involved the anointing. They carried the anointing and ministered in the anointing to the people. It was God who anointed them. The foundation of

the anointing is in Christ. Have you noticed how Christians are rather dry and boring without the anointing? Have you seen how church services are also dry and boring without the anointing? But when the anointing from above is there, everyone's attention is captured by the anointing and what God is doing instead of what's happening on the platform. The Holy Spirit takes over the service and the anointing is released upon the people. This is all by heavenly design. Nothing can replace the anointing.

The anointing is all wrapped up in the identity of Jesus Christ *who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty* (Rev. 1:8). Heaven not only declares His worth but also His full identity including His Lordship or reign.

- Rev. 19:1 After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!
- Rev. 19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!
- Rev. 19:16 And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

So, there are three things you need to understand about Jesus *for in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power* (Col. 2:9-10).

1. Jesus is the Savior (Redeemer)
2. Jesus is the Lord (Ruler)
3. Jesus is the Christ (Anointed One)

The apostles did not only preach salvation, but they also declared Jesus as both Lord and Christ.

- Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." ³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?" ³⁸ Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

In the Lord Jesus Christ, we have the full package including the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. No wonder the religious authorities forbid them to preach and teach in this name saying *Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us* (Acts 5:28)! Even they saw the anointing of power in Jesus' name boldly manifested through the Apostles.

- Acts 4:13-14 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴ And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

They tried everything they could to get them to stop teaching the people about this name. They arrested the apostles, they threatened them, they beat them, and they plotted against them, but the apostles kept on preaching Jesus as the Christ, the Anointed One.

- Acts 5:41-42 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. ⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Note that the apostles were unstoppable with the anointing. The apostles and the Early Church did not stop *preaching Jesus as the Christ*, the Anointed One. The anointing is in Christ. You need to go deeper into your relationship with Christ to understand the anointing available to you to do God's work.

The Priestly Anointing

The anointing of Aaron and his four sons for the priesthood provides us with some valuable insights. This is particularly the case when we are dealing with a new generation of spiritual leaders on the horizon. All the priestly garments from top to bottom were skillfully made for a divine purpose.

- Ex. 28:1-4 "Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron *and* Aaron's sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. ² And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. ³ So you shall speak to all *who are* gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest. ⁴ And these *are* the garments which they shall make: a breastplate, an ephod, a robe, a skillfully woven tunic, a turban, and a sash. So they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, that he may minister to Me as priest.

These garments were holy or set apart specifically for those God chose to minister to Him. The repeat of the phrase *that he may minister to Me as priest* means that Aaron and his four sons could not minister without the holy garments. What does this say about the anointing? There is no mention of the anointing but only that the garments were made for glory and for beauty by those gifted and filled with the spirit of wisdom. But look what happens when Aaron and his sons actually put on the garments. This is where it becomes fascinating.

- Ex. 28:41 So you shall put them on Aaron your brother and on his sons with him. You shall anoint them, consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests.

The anointing of Aaron and his sons is symbolic of the anointing available to us in Christ. There is also a progression here when spiritual fathers and their sons or any Christian puts on Christ. God anoints them just like Aaron and his sons were anointed. He anoints them with the Holy Spirit and with power. The Bible talks about being clothed with the power from on high.

- Luke 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

Jesus is saying that His disciples need to be clothed with the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit before they minister to and for Him. I was amazed that the Greek word *enduo* (en-doo'-o) not only referred to wearing, being arrayed, endued, or putting on clothing, but it has a deeper sense of sinking into a garment. Christians today need to sink into the Holy Spirit and the anointing. You need to sink into the Holy Spirit. When you do, He anoints you that you may minister to the Lord Jesus Christ and then to the people of God. Picture yourself spiritually naked before you called upon the name of Christ and was saved. Jesus clothed you with salvation. This is wonderful! However, many Christians and spiritual leaders stop there. They settle in when Jesus desires them to be clothed with the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit. Remember, Jesus declared in the synagogue at Nazareth the prophetic words of Isaiah saying, *The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me* and *Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing* (Luke 4:18, 21; Isa. 61:1). Do not resist the Holy Spirit! The power and anointing will be there for you when you invest yourself to be clothed with the Holy Spirit. Aaron and his sons put on the priestly garments and were anointed. But this was not the only thing that took place. There were things that are closely related to the anointing. Heaven's command was, *You shall anoint them, consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests* (Ex. 28:41). Anoint, consecrate, sanctify, that they may minister. All of this is connected to and revolves around the anointing with the Holy Spirit and with power from on high.

A progression in the anointing is also seen from the Old Testament to the New Testament. In the Old Testament we observe the anointing upon select individuals when the Spirit of the Lord comes upon them. Here are just a few Old Testament examples of the Spirit falling upon judges, prophets, kings, and priests:

Name	Scripture Reference
Moses and the 70 Elders	Num. 11:25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed <i>the same</i> upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again.
Othniel (Caleb's younger brother)	Judg. 3:10 The Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the LORD delivered Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-Rishathaim.
Gideon	Judg. 6:34 But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him.
Jephthah	Judg. 11:29 Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced <i>toward</i> the people of Ammon.
Sampson	Judg. 14:6 And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though <i>he had</i> nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done. Judg. 14:19 Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon him mightily, and he went down to Ashkelon and killed thirty of their men, took their apparel, and gave the changes <i>of clothing</i> to those who had explained the riddle. So his anger was aroused, and he went back up to his father's house. Judg. 15:14 When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting against him. Then the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him; and the ropes that <i>were</i> on his arms became like flax that is burned with fire, and his bonds broke loose from his hands.

Saul	1Sam. 10:6 Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man.
David	1Sam. 16:13 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.
Jahaziel (Levitical singer in the choir)	2Chr. 20:14 Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly.
Zechariah	2Chr. 24:20 Then the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, who stood above the people, and said to them, "Thus says God: 'Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, He also has forsaken you.' "
Ezekiel	Ezek. 11:5 Then the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said to me, "Speak! "Thus says the LORD: 'Thus you have said, O house of Israel; for I know the things that come into your mind. Ezek. 37:1 The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

The point is that God anointed them with the Holy Spirit and power to do what He called them to do. Nothing has changed in this today. The only shift or progression in the anointing revealed in the New Testament is that the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit is poured out upon all flesh. This should be encouraging to all Christians today.

The Kingly Anointing

You may be asking why some Christians seem more anointed than others. There are a number of factors involved that we will address in our study of the anointing. However, a big reason is that not everyone is open to or even desires the anointing in their lives. They have limited themselves and settled into a pretty standard Christian life that is out of touch with the Holy Spirit. Often religious or denominational teaching about the Holy Spirit is at play. There is no doubt that religious humanism and secularization have influenced church life for many believers. There is also the simple reality in some churches of sin in the camp. All these things and more make believers and church life stagnant. I have observed, however, that a growing number of believers are hungry and thirsty, but many leaders are reluctant to step out in the anointing fearing a loss of members. As a result, they can no longer even recognize the anointing. I hear the Spirit of the Lord saying to the churches today, Let Me in! Let Me in! Let Me in!

The account of a young man named Saul is a good example of someone who was reluctant when confronted with the notion of being anointed. In one way this was understandable because the prophet Samuel and the Lord were not pleased in the first place with the request by the elders to have a king like other nations. Samuel prayed to the Lord about this, and God answered: *And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them" (1Sam. 8:7).* This is the situation Saul found himself in. It was in the context of the people's rejection of the Lord's rule. No wonder he was hesitant. Nevertheless, Saul was God's choice.

- 1Sam. 9:15-17 Now the LORD had told Samuel in his ear the day before Saul came, saying, ¹⁶ “Tomorrow about this time I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him commander over My people Israel, that he may save My people from the hand of the Philistines; for I have looked upon My people, because their cry has come to Me.” ¹⁷ So when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said to him, “There he is, the man of whom I spoke to you. This one shall reign over My people.”

There was no question Saul was chosen by God. He was *more handsome* and *taller* than all the people of Israel. In addition, his father was *a mighty man of power* (1Sam. 9:1-2). Maybe this young man felt he had it all and desired nothing more. Many Christians feel this way today when it comes to the baptism with the Holy Spirit. They think or have been taught that they have all there is of the Holy Spirit in their lives. We just don't know if this was the case with Saul. His reluctant behavior is first seen in his reaction to the words the prophet Samuel spoke to him.

- 1Sam. 9:19-21 Samuel answered Saul and said, “I *am* the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for you shall eat with me today; and tomorrow I will let you go and will tell you all that *is* in your heart. ²⁰ But as for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not be anxious about them, for they have been found. And on whom *is* all the desire of Israel? *Is it* not on you and on all your father's house?” ²¹ And Saul answered and said, “Am I not a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then do you speak like this to me?”

Why then do you speak like this to me? Note Saul's reluctance here. He views himself and his family, being from the tribe of Benjamin, as *the smallest* and *the least* in value and in number among God's people. This is somewhat surprising given his physical features and the prominent influence of his father within the tribe of Benjamin. But there are many young leaders and believers all around the world in churches today who demonstrate this same reluctant behavior when it comes to the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power. They view themselves as inferior. They see spiritual leaders and some others regularly ministering from the platform but devalue the fact that God would anoint them and use them in any special way. They settle in as spectators. Often church leaders facilitate this spectator attitude. Then, when God sends someone to speak the truth about this spiritual condition and urges them to repent and reconnect with the anointing of the Holy Spirit, they resist the very anointing that they so desperately need. God's people from the smallest to the least need the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power for the work of the Kingdom.

Saul had yet to experience the anointing of the Holy Spirit in his life. Things would change, however, once the Spirit of the Lord came upon him. Look what takes place after Saul ate with Samuel. They walked down to the outskirts of the city, and he tells Saul to *stand here awhile, that I may announce to you the word of God* (1Sam. 9:27).

- 1Sam. 10:1-16 Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured *it* on his head, and kissed him and said: “*Is it* not because the LORD has anointed you commander over His inheritance? ² When you have departed from me today, you will find two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say to you, “The donkeys which you went to look for have been found. And now your father has ceased caring about the donkeys and is worrying about you, saying, ‘What shall I do about my son?’” ³ Then you shall go on forward from there and come to the terebinth tree of Tabor. There three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you, one carrying three young goats, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying

a skin of wine. ⁴ And they will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall receive from their hands. ⁵ After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying. ⁶ Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. ⁷ And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you. ⁸ You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and make sacrifices of peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, till I come to you and show you what you should do.” ⁹ So it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, that God gave him another heart; and all those signs came to pass that day. ¹⁰ When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them. ¹¹ And it happened, when all who knew him formerly saw that he indeed prophesied among the prophets, that the people said to one another, “What is this that has come upon the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?” ¹² Then a man from there answered and said, “But who is their father?” Therefore it became a proverb: “Is Saul also among the prophets?” ¹³ And when he had finished prophesying, he went to the high place. ¹⁴ Then Saul’s uncle said to him and his servant, “Where did you go?” So he said, “To look for the donkeys. When we saw that they were nowhere to be found, we went to Samuel.” ¹⁵ And Saul’s uncle said, “Tell me, please, what Samuel said to you.” ¹⁶ So Saul said to his uncle, “He told us plainly that the donkeys had been found.” But about the matter of the kingdom, he did not tell him what Samuel had said.

There is no mention of the Spirit of the Lord coming upon Saul before this time. This is his first experience with the anointing of the Spirit. It is a reminder *how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power* (Acts 10:38), and all those in the Early Church who experienced the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Have you ever wondered what would happen if all believers would experience the anointing with the Holy Spirit in this way. Samuel prophesied that Saul would *be turned into another man* (1Sam. 10:6) once the Spirit of the Lord came upon him. Saul also experienced a change of heart when he departed from Samuel. In fact, *God gave him another heart* (1Sam. 10:9). Do you recall the progression in the anointing of Aaron and his sons: anoint, consecrate, sanctify, and minister. Does this mean that Saul was no longer reluctant? Look at what he did not tell his uncle. He did not tell him what Samuel said about the kingdom. This also causes believers to shy away from the anointing with the Holy Spirit. It is the concern over what others including family members will think. This concern still plagues many in the body of Christ.

One final point regarding the reluctance of Saul. He experienced the anointing. The Spirit of the Lord came upon him. He prophesied with the prophets. Now it was time for Saul to assume the place of his calling and fulfill God’s mission. But they could not find him! Here’s how it went down:

- 1Sam. 10:22-27 Therefore they inquired of the LORD further, “Has the man come here yet?” And the LORD answered, “There he is, hidden among the equipment.” ²³ So they ran and brought him from there; and when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward. ²⁴ And Samuel said to all the people, “Do you see him whom the LORD has chosen, that *there is* no one like him among all the people?” So all the people shouted and said, “Long live the king!” ²⁵ Then Samuel explained to the people the behavior of royalty, and wrote *it* in a book and laid *it* up before the LORD. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. ²⁶ And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and valiant *men*

went with him, whose hearts God had touched. ²⁷ But some rebels said, “How can this man save us?” So they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

If you thought Saul’s reluctant behavior over the anointing was over, then you are mistaken. He is secretly hiding in a warehouse. The language used reveals that this was intentional on his part. The good news is that the Lord Himself showed them where Saul was. They literally ran and brought him out among the people to be installed as their first king. Many believers remain hidden in the equipment room reluctant to walk in the kingly anointing of God upon their lives. The body of Christ needs every hand on deck for the end time harvest is great. New generation leaders need to understand that it was not an easy assignment for this young man from the tribe of Benjamin. However, God chose him, anointed him, and used him to deliver His people from the Philistines. You also have a special and difficult assignment from God. The Lord did not allow Saul to stay hidden in the equipment room and he will not allow you either. Saul ran well for two years until his impatience and disobedience with the unlawful sacrifice caused him to be rejected by God. David, however, respected the anointing upon Saul. It is time for this generation to seek and experience the kingly anointing with the Holy Spirit and with power.

The New Generation Church Anointing

Did you know there is a generational component to the anointing? The anointing is going to show up in each generation. This is because the Lord has commanded that the fire must not go out.

- Ex. 40:15 You shall anoint them, as you anointed their father, that they may minister to Me as priests; for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.”
- 1Pet. 2:4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- 1Pet. 2:9-10 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Every generation of believers must decide what they are going to do with the anointing. In many cases, church leaders and church doctrines about the Holy Spirit have determined the response of the people. This specifically applies to the baptism with the Holy Spirit, praying in tongues, and the operation of spiritual gifts. The source of power designed by God to be received and manifested through believers is the very thing neglected in many churches today. But there is a new generation church arising. It is what Bishop James Murunga of Kenya calls a *fresh Kingdom remnant mission force*. Right now, Jesus is baptizing this remnant mission force with the Holy Spirit and fire. They are praying with the Holy Spirit. There is a burning fire in them that cannot be quenched. My Beloved brother in Christ, Pastor Shajet Thomas of Revival Blessing International Ministries (RBIM) in Itanagar, India, describes the burning fire in the young generation as *liquid fire flowing from their bellies and out of their mouths as they pray in tongues. It is a consuming fire upon black magic, demonic*

strongholds, clouds of darkness, principalities, and territorial spirits. I have prayed in this way with the young generation anointed with the Holy Spirit and power. This is the new generation church anointing. There will be no revival fire without this anointed generation of young leaders and believers. It is time for them to step into the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Daily, more and more of these young firebrands in the hand of the Lord are entering into the fire and the glory of the Lord.

CHAPTER 2: NEW LEVEL ANOINTINGS

Progressive Levels of Anointing

The anointing that was upon Jesus Christ of Nazareth marks the highest level of anointing that is possible. He was given the Holy Spirit without measure. I will discuss this with you later in our study, however, both the prophets of old and the apostles of the Early Church appear to confirm that higher levels of anointing do exist. If so, then is the same level of anointing available to believers today? Were there prophets who experienced a greater and new level of anointing? Were there those in the Early Church who demonstrated a higher level of anointing than others? Do we see the same thing occurring in the present age? A closer examination of the Scriptures will answer these questions.

The Bible exposes us to several progressive levels related to our spiritual lives as we seek to walk in the footsteps of Christ. Here are just a few:

- **Faith to Faith:** Note this clearly implies a movement from one level of faith to a new level. Remember, the Apostles asked Jesus to increase their faith (Luke 17:5). Jesus also distinguished between little and great faith. Faith builds to a new level by exercising your faith and praying in the Spirit according to God's word.

Rom. 1:16:17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "*The just shall live by faith.*"

Jude 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit...

- **Glory to Glory:** Recall that Jesus took Peter, James, and John on the mountain of transfiguration. Jesus appeared in glory. They saw His glory. They entered into the cloud of glory (Luke 9:28-36). In the same way, we enter into a new level of seeing the Risen Christ by the Spirit of the Lord. Our faces become more and more radiant in the light and glory of Christ. The anointing does this.

2Cor. 3:16-18 Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. ¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

- **Strength to Strength:** Again, there is clearly movement from one level of power and ability in Christ to a new level. The Apostle Paul gives a final note to this truth when he says *be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might* (Eph. 6:10).

Psa. 84:5-9 Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, Whose heart is set on pilgrimage. ⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baca, They make it a spring; The rain also covers it with pools. ⁷ They go from strength to strength; Each one appears before God in Zion. ⁸ O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah ⁹ O God, behold our shield, And look upon the face of Your anointed.

- **Anointing:** The vision God gave the prophet Ezekiel implies progressive levels from ankle deep to knee deep, to waist deep, and then fully immersed in the water of the Spirit. Note how this connects with a very great multitude of fish that will be healed. Certainly, the greater harvest needs a greater and new level of anointing that comes from a continual filling with the Holy Spirit and power.

Ezek. 47:1-10 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar. ² He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side. ³ And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the water *came up to my ankles*. ⁴ Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; the water *came up to my knees*. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; the water *came up to my waist*. ⁵ Again he measured one thousand, *and it was* a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, water in which one must swim, a river that could not be crossed. ⁶ He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen *this*?" Then he brought me and returned me to the bank of the river. ⁷ When I returned, there, along the bank of the river, were very many trees on one side and the other. ⁸ Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. *When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed*. ⁹ And it shall be *that* every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes. ¹⁰ It shall be *that* fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be *places* for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many.

Eph. 5:17-21 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*. ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God.

These progressive levels of faith, glory, strength (power), and anointing are intimately associated with the new level anointing of the Holy Spirit and power needed today. We see it coming upon the new generation church. We see it when we pray in the Spirit together.

The Anointing of the Believer

Many believers today are not even aware that they have an anointing. The Bible, however, says *you have an anointing*. Every believer has a basic anointing. It is a very important anointing. John introduces us to this anointing in his first letter. He prefaces his introduction of the anointing with a most chilling announcement:

- 1John 2:18-19 Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

The above verses are marking, introducing a critical season; a period of struggle with many antichrists, lying spirits, and deception in the advance of the Christ's Kingdom. Has anything changed today? Did you take special notice that the carriers of these deceptive spirits were those who did not continue in the body of Christ. They were in the church but did not continue! Perhaps they were nominal believers at the beginning, however, the conclusion is *they were not of us* and more emphatically *that none of them were of us*. Paul also warned the Ephesian elders about this:

- Acts 20:29-31 For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. ³¹ Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

Some in the church today are unwilling to sit under the Word and be filled with the Holy Spirit and His cleansing fire. They hang around and develop cozy and familiar relationships with people in the church, but have little desire to grow in the knowledge of the Word or the experience with the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power over their lives. They take no responsibility for their own spiritual growth. Their true colors are revealed when they go out. They are carriers of deception, being deceived themselves by familiar, unclean, and lying spirits. However, there is a breakthrough word with this chilling realization:

- 1John 2:20-29 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. ²¹ I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. ²² Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. ²³ Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also. ²⁴ Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life. 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. ²⁸ And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. ²⁹ If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

But you have an anointing. Repeat that over and over again. Let it sink deeply into your heart and mind. Where does this anointing come from? It comes from *the Holy One*. This confirms again that all anointing is in Christ. You received this basic anointing the Apostle is talking about *from Him* when you were born again. It is the anointing of the believer. Like all anointings it involves a special application of the Holy Spirit.

χρίσμα *chrisma*, *khris'-mah*; from 5548; an unguent or smearing, i.e. (figuratively) the special endowment ("chrism") of the Holy Spirit: — anointing, unction.¹

¹ James Strong. *Greek Strong's Dictionary*, #5545.

One of the first things to know about this anointing is that it *abides in you*. It is an abiding anointing. It is in you. The Greek word *meno* (men'-o) for abide is used seven times in the verses quoted from 1John 2.

μένω meno, men'-o; a primary verb; to stay (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy): — abide, continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry (for), x thine own.²

Does this mean that this initial anointing of the believer is residential in that it is received and remains as long as you pursue and abide in the Lord? It appears that this is the case. But wait a minute. A surprising seventh time the word abide is used. Earlier, the Apostle John revealed why those who left us were not of us. It was because *they would have continued (meno) with us*. Could it be that they could or would not abide in this anointing? This point becomes clear when we look at another important feature of this abiding anointing.

The abiding anointing does more than point you to the truth; it teaches you so that you can recognize the truth when you hear it. What does it teach you? It *teaches you concerning all things*. It teaches you all about the truth from the beginning. Deception lurks around the corner without this anointing. Remember, this is the context of what John is writing about when he said, *These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you* (1John 2:26). There are those who will try to get you to err and roam about in the faith to get you to go astray from the truth that is in Christ. But the Bible says you have an anointing that teaches you! The requirement for the believer is that you abide or continue to pursue the things of God. Every believer has been given an anointing to enable them to grow and mature in the Lord. Although Ephesians 4:11 leaders have been raised up by Christ *for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry* (Eph. 4:12), the believer has a responsibility for their own spiritual maturity as well. You do not need anyone to teach you what this anointing teaches you because it has taught you from the beginning the truth about Jesus and to abide in Him. In fact, the abiding nature of this basic anointing reinforces what Jesus, the Holy and Anointed One, taught His disciples:

- John 15:4-8 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

The Apostle Paul echoes what Jesus taught His disciples. He repeatedly uses phrases like *in Him* (whom), *in Christ*, and *in the Lord* at least 170 times in his 13 letters of the New Testament. As many as 43 of those times appear in the book of Ephesians alone. An examination of the first chapter of Ephesians reveals a number of things believers are taught by this anointing from the Holy One, Jesus Christ.

² Strong #3306.

Scriptures	What the Anointing Teaches
Eph. 1:1-2 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful <u>in Christ Jesus</u> : ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.	Believers are called <i>faithful in Christ</i> . The anointing teaches that God is faithful and those who follow are responsible to be faithful to Him. (Note the underlying implication that not all were faithful in the church of Ephesus)
Eph. 1:3 Blessed <i>be</i> the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly <i>places</i> <u>in Christ</u> ,	The anointing teaches believers who are in Christ that He has blessed them with every spiritual blessing from heaven. The believer has unlimited access.
Eph. 1:4-6 ...just as He chose us <u>in Him</u> before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.	The believer's status in Christ is a chosen one. The anointing teaches that this chosen position sets us apart and presents us blameless by His grace. The believer is adopted and accepted by God through Christ according to His will and pleasure. It is all good from God's standpoint. All praise and glory belong to the Lord for such grace in accepting us.
Eph. 1:7-9 <u>In Him</u> we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, ⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,	The anointing teaches believers about the power in the blood of Christ to redeem and forgive by His rich grace. His rich grace toward those who are in Christ overflows.
Eph. 1:10 ...that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things <u>in Christ</u> , both which are in heaven and which are on earth— <u>in Him</u> .	The anointing teaches believers that the time is coming when all things will be summed up in Christ.
Eph. 1:11-12 <u>In Him</u> also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹² that we who first trusted <u>in Christ</u> should be to the praise of His glory.	The anointing teaches believers that they have purpose and an inheritance in Christ. He works things out for them according to His counsel and will.
Eph. 1:13-14 <u>In Him</u> you also <i>trusted</i> , after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; <u>in whom</u> also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.	The anointing teaches believers that their salvation is guaranteed with the engraved seal of the promise of the Holy Spirit. It is a lifetime guarantee for those who trust in Christ.
Eph. 1:15-18 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith <u>in the Lord Jesus</u> and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,	The anointing teaches those who put their faith in the Lord to know and have hope in His calling upon their lives. There is a growing wisdom, revelation, and knowledge to be obtained by those who are in Christ.
Eph. 1:19-23 ...and what <i>is</i> the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked <u>in Christ</u> when He raised Him from the dead and seated <i>Him</i> at His right hand in the heavenly <i>places</i> , ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. ²² And He put all <i>things</i> under His feet, and gave Him <i>to be</i> head over all <i>things</i> to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.	The anointing teaches the greatness of God's power to those who believe. Believers are convinced of His power when He raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is above all and reigns over all as the head of the church, the body of Christ.

Many believers today do not take seriously their standing in Christ or their responsibility as His disciples. This can change under the anointing believers receive from the Lord. There exists much deception in the world today. The deceiver of the brethren is very active both inside and outside the church. The anointing of the believer in Christ, however, overcomes the deception. The anointing that teaches the believer what is needed to abide and continue in Christ is powerful and victorious over all deception because those who abide in Him and in His word know the truth. The anointing has taught them.

- John 8:31-32 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

The anointing of the believer guards you from deception because you know that you know that Jesus is who He says He is. The anointing you received when you were born again taught you. There is, however, an empowering anointing that comes afterwards when you are baptized with the Holy Spirit. I believe it is important to understand the unique difference between the anointing of the believer and the anointing with power.

Anointing of the Believer	Anointing with Power
<p>1John 2:20 But <u>you have an anointing</u> from the Holy One, and you know all things.</p> <p>1John 2:26-27 These things I have written to you concerning those who <i>try to deceive you</i>. ²⁷ But <u>the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you</u>, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same <u>anointing teaches you</u> concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.</p>	<p>Luke 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are <u>endued with power from on high</u>.”</p> <p>Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has <u>come upon you</u>; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”</p>

The key distinction here that many believers fail to recognize or even acknowledge is the anointing that is *in you* and that which *comes upon you*. So, there is a before and after experience when it comes to the anointing. I have found the following explanations helpful in understanding this:

- “Please notice that the Bible says the abiding anointing is in you. The empowering anointing (which is the anointing for ministry) rests on you. The empowering anointing for ministry comes later, but the abiding anointing comes at salvation.”³
- “Note the difference between the anointing on you and the anointing in you. All born again Christians have the anointing in them because they have Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, living on the inside. Yes. You are anointed. Why? Because Jesus, the Anointed One resides inside of you. However, even though you have the anointing in you, it doesn’t mean it is on you. Having the anointing on you is when God Himself has placed His Spirit on your life

³ Benny Hinn. *Mysteries of the Anointing* (p. 13). Charisma House. Kindle Edition.

and appointed you for a particular function. Remember, the anointing of Saul, Aaron, David, and Jesus was for them to accomplish distinct tasks in the kingdom.”⁴

In short, the anointing that abides inside you reveals and teaches you all about the truth that is in Christ while the empowering anointing that comes on you gives you the power to do everything the Lord calls you to do. The one is for living and growing in Christ; the other is for ministry. With that in mind let us turn our attention to the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power.

The New Level Anointing of Elisha

Elisha experienced a new level anointing with a double portion of the Holy Spirit. He was able to do twice the number of miracles than his spiritual father, Elijah. It is important to recognize that the anointing upon Elijah was powerful. Neither dew nor rain appeared except at his word. So powerful was the anointing upon him that God answered with fire when Elijah called out to Him on Mount Carmel. And he also ran ahead of the King’s chariot with supernatural power for over 20 miles in heavy rain. It was the fastest marathon recorded in history.

- 1Kings 17:1 And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.”
- 1Kings 18:36 And it came to pass, at *the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice*, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, “LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You *are* God in Israel and I *am* Your servant, and *that* I have done all these things at Your word. ³⁷ Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You *are* the LORD God, and *that* You have turned their hearts back *to You* again.” ³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that *was* in the trench. ³⁹ Now when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The LORD, He *is* God! The LORD, He *is* God!”
- 1Kings 18:45-46 Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel. ⁴⁶ Then the hand of the LORD came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

The anointing upon Elijah was powerful, but it would rise to a new level upon his spiritual son, Elisha. How did this take place?

- 2Kings 2:9-15 And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?” Elisha said, “Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.” ¹⁰ So he said, “You have asked a hard thing. *Nevertheless*, if you see me *when I am* taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so.” ¹¹ Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire *appeared* with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² And Elisha saw *it*, and he cried out, “My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!” So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces. ¹³ He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the

⁴ Apostle Ese Duke. *The Anointing: The Supernatural Power of God* (p. 19). Archway Publishing. Kindle Edition.

bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴ Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, “Where *is* the LORD God of Elijah?” And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over. ¹⁵ Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him.

There are several things to consider in the above biblical account. Elisha desired more of the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power than he saw upon his spiritual father, Elijah. This should always be the case with new generation leaders. Sooner or later your spiritual father(s) will depart for glory. You should desire more anointing. Elisha did, but the *fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood facing them at a distance* (2Kings 2:7). They appeared to be looking on to see what was going to happen but showed little desire for a greater anointing themselves. Although they recognized the spirit of Elijah rested on Elisha, they wanted to go looking for Elijah’s body. In fact, they insisted on it:

- 2Kings 2:16-18 Then they said to him, “Look now, there are fifty strong men with your servants. Please let them go and search for your master, lest perhaps the Spirit of the LORD has taken him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley.” And he said, “You shall not send anyone.” ¹⁷ But when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, “Send *them!*” Therefore they sent fifty men, and they searched for three days but did not find him. ¹⁸ And when they came back to him, for he had stayed in Jericho, he said to them, “Did I not say to you, ‘Do not go?’”

It seems like this new generation of the sons of the prophets were not looking or desiring the anointing. Perhaps, they were disinterested or distracted. There is a lesson here for young leaders today. Desire more and more of the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Elisha picked up the anointed mantle and went forth with the power of a new level anointing. It was an anointing with the same Holy Spirit but at a new level. He was able to do twice the number of miracles than his spiritual father, Elijah. Spiritual fathers today should desire their sons and daughters to have greater anointing and do more miracles than them. After all, Jesus expressed this very desire concerning those who believe in Him:

- John 14:12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

This should be the same for spiritual fathers today concerning the new generation church. The Lord desires the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power to be released in greater measure from a new generation of believers. Take a moment to review just ten of the miracles performed by Elisha.

1. A widow’s oil multiplied to deliver her from creditors. 2Kings 4:1-7
2. A barren woman gave birth, and her son was later raised from the dead. 2Kings 4:8-37
3. A deadly pot of stew was purified. 2Kings 4:38-41
4. 100 men miraculously fed. 2Kings 4:42-44
5. Naaman’s leprosy healed. 2Kings 5:1-19
6. An iron ax head floated on the water (the anointing was in the stick). 2 Kings 6:1-7
7. Evil plans of the enemy revealed by the Spirit. 2Kings 6:8-15

8. Enemy soldiers blinded and restored again. 2Kings 6:16-23
9. Eyes were opened to see a heavenly army of supernatural horses and chariots of fire. 2Kings 6:16-17
10. A dead man stood on his feet after touching the bones of Elisha. 2Kings 13:20-21

The last miracle in the above list further confirms a much greater and new level of anointing upon Elisha.

- **2Kings 13:20-21 Then Elisha died, and they buried him. And the *raiding* bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year. ²¹ So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band of *raiders*; and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.**

Just think of it! The anointing was so great upon Elisha that it was in his bones. It remained in his bones and anything that came in contact with these anointed bones lived. Earlier we read about the borrowed axe head that floated to the top of the water. The anointing upon Elisha went into a stick and the iron axe miraculously came up in the water. The anointing was in a stick and now remains in the dead bones of Elisha. We don't normally think of life in dead bones. The point here is that Elisha operated with a new level of anointing. One other interesting thing I observed from the Scriptures is that the anointing did not ascend but remained. Neither Elijah when he departed for glory nor Elisha when he died and was buried took the anointing with them. You don't need the anointing in heaven. You don't need to preach or pray for the sick along the streets of gold. There are no healing and deliverance crusades in heaven because there is no sickness and there are no demons oppressing the people. Satan has been cast out of heaven a long time ago. His focus is on the earth and particularly the offspring of Christ, the church of the Living God.

- **Rev. 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**
- **1Pet. 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.**

Satan is terrified of young leaders and any believer discovering and walking in greater and new levels of anointing. Like the vision of Ezekiel, he wants them to stay ankle deep or even knee or waist deep in the anointing and the river of the Holy Spirit. The devil knows if this young generation goes into a deeper measure of the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power that there will be an enormous harvest of souls as the living waters flow from them. This warrants a deeper examination of Ezekiel's vision.

- **Ezek. 47:1-12 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar. ² He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side. ³ And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the water *came up to my* ankles. ⁴ Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; the water *came up to my* knees. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; the water *came up to my* waist. ⁵ Again he measured one thousand, *and it was* a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, water in which one must**

swim, a river that could not be crossed. ⁶ He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen *this*?” Then he brought me and returned me to the bank of the river. ⁷ When I returned, there, along the bank of the river, were very many trees on one side and the other. ⁸ Then he said to me: “This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. *When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed.* ⁹ And it shall be *that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.* ¹⁰ It shall be *that* fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be *places* for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many. ¹¹ But its swamps and marshes will not be healed; they will be given over to salt. ¹² Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all *kinds of trees* used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine.”

I believe there is a greater and new level of anointing available with each of the above measures. Keep in mind we are dealing in this vision with Holy and Living Water in regard to the river of the Spirit. Although there is some debate whether the vision is referring to the heavenly sanctuary or the sanctuary in Jerusalem, there is definitely heavenly action with a strong message and spiritual impact for the church today. Heaven is opened to the prophet. He is seeing things in the spirit realm.

- Ezek. 40:1-4 In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was captured, on the very same day the hand of the LORD was upon me; and He took me there. ² In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city. ³ He took me there, and behold, *there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze. He had a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand, and he stood in the gateway.* ⁴ And the man said to me, “Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and fix your mind on everything I show you; for you were brought here so that I might show *them* to you. Declare to the house of Israel everything you see.”

The above is the introduction to what the Lord showed him in the vision. This was not from man or the prophet’s own intellect because *the hand of the LORD* was upon him. He was taken by the Spirit to see things from a heavenly perspective. He was getting a view from the top on a very high mountain. Ezekiel was brought to this specific place and time to see and hear something from the Lord. I believe the Lord has also raised up this new generation to see things in the Spirit and to declare them to the church. What did the Lord want the prophet to see, hear, and declare? It was about a new city and a new temple. In fact, the remaining eight chapters of this prophetic book describe and measure things. It is interesting that the book of Ezekiel ends with the name of this new city; *And the name of the city from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE* (Ezek. 48:35). This is the broader context of what was revealed to Ezekiel about the river of the Spirit.

The first thing about this river is that it’s a flowing river. It is flowing from the right side of the temple. The right side is very significant because Jesus sits at the right hand of God. All things flow from this location, the right side. Everything flows through the Lord Jesus Christ as we have fully established at the beginning of our study on the anointing. The river of the Spirit is also going somewhere. Note there is water at the door of the temple. Many churches have some water at the door of the church but it’s not flowing where it needs to go because they

hinder and quench it. Individual believers do the same because they are only slightly into the river. Now let's take a closer look at the progressive levels of measurement and how they speak regarding new levels of anointing.

The Measurement	The Anointing Level
The water came up to my ankles	Very low, little recognition or seeking of the anointing with the Holy Spirit. No desire for the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Believers are not going with the river. They remain on a surface level and in control.
The water came up to my knees	Slight increase with some awareness of the presence of the Lord. Believers feel the anointing and power in others but do not experience it themselves. Personal issues hinder them from going deeper.
The water came up to my waist	High level with awareness that the river is moving them into a new level of anointing. Believers desire to go where the river takes them, but don't know how to swim yet. They hold back.
The water was too deep, water in which one must swim	A greater and new level of the anointing is experienced. Believers go deep into the river of the Spirit where rivers of living water flow from them to others. They immerse themselves in the Spirit and they flow with the river.

The vision reveals a progression in the Spirit. How deep are you willing to go into the things of the Spirit? Where do you draw the line? Some church leaders today appear embarrassed by various manifestations of the Spirit. The baptism with the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, spiritual gifts, and any emotional displays of the Spirit in church services are limited to private settings. But Ezekiel's vision takes you to a new and greater level in the Spirit. It urges you on to a place where you swim in the river of the Spirit. You can no longer cross the river because its current is taking you where the river goes. And get this: ***it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the river goes, will live*** (Ezek. 47:9). Most importantly, ***there will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes***. What a healing explosion from this river of life. And take special note that the new and greater anointing is needed for the greater harvest! There is fruit that remains ***because their water flows from the sanctuary*** (Ezek. 47:12). You carry a new level of anointing when you swim in the river of the Spirit. Greater power is working in and through you. Others are being healed and delivered around you because the river of living water is flowing out. This is a new level anointing.

The New Level Anointing of Peter, Stephen, and Philip

Simon Peter experienced a number of ups and downs as he followed Christ. However, things were quite different after he was filled with the Holy Spirit along with 120 believers in the Upper Room. He preached the first anointed message of the Early Church and within 24 hours 3000 new converts were added to the church. Great things happen when you come out of a prayer gathering with a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit, tongues of fire, and supernatural

power from on high. The anointing makes you become like another person. Remember, Peter and the other disciples walked with Jesus for over three years. Therefore, Peter sat under His teaching of the Word. He received private instruction and explanation from Jesus concerning the Kingdom of God and the Holy Spirit. In addition, when Jesus sent them out two by two, Peter preached, healed the sick, and cast out demons using the authority and power in the name of Jesus. But there is a remarkable difference in Peter's ministry before and after Pentecost. Although there is authority and power during both seasons, the latter is at a much higher level. There is a difference in laying hands upon the sick and your shadow healing all who pass by.

- Acts 5:12-16 And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. ¹³ Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. ¹⁴ And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

Many miracles were taking place through the hands of the apostles, but then there was Peter's shadow. This is something different. It's a new level of anointing. The anointing has extended beyond his hands. The empowering anointing was now around him. It is important to understand the environment of what was happening. It was an environment of increased anointing where multitudes were *added to the Lord*. How did these believers respond to the anointing upon Peter. They brought the sick into the streets and placed them on beds and couches. Why would they do such a thing? It was *so the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them*. They had seen and experienced what the anointing does. A new level of anointing attracts multitudes of people. People from other cities came bringing the sick and those with unclean spirits to Jerusalem. Just take a moment and consider this: *they were all healed*. They came hoping some would be healed but all were healed. These are the results of a new level of anointing. Peter rose to a new level of the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power. When we are talking about the anointing, we are talking about the Holy Spirit and power working through us. Remember, Peter reminded those gathered in the house of Cornelius *how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power* (Acts 10:38). So, in this way, the anointing is synonymous with the Holy Spirit and with God's power. Wherever you see a new level of anointing in operation, you will see multitudes coming to Christ and bringing the sick and oppressed by the devil to experience the anointing.

Stephen was one of the seven deacons who were carefully selected to oversee the distribution of food to the widows.

- Acts 6:1-7 Now in those days, when *the number of the disciples was multiplying*, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. ² Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. ³ Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business*; ⁴ but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor,

Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, ⁶ whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. ⁷ Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

You can see that Stephen and the other deacons met the criteria for serving the Lord in this capacity. He had a *good reputation* and was *full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom*. The above Scriptures also add that he was *a man full of faith*. Undoubtedly, the seven received the anointing to fulfill their assignment because right after the apostles prayed and laid hands upon them it says, *Then the word of God spread*. But we read this about Stephen:

- Acts 6:8-10 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen. ¹⁰ And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.

This deacon was now doing great miracles among the people. Apparently, Stephen received a higher level of anointing when the apostles prayed over him. Whether it was intended or not we do not know but it is clear he operated at a new level of anointing. The Synagogue of the Freedmen⁵ argued with Stephen and opposed his anointed ministry. It appears their opposition was on theological grounds, but it is obvious they were out to stop him. The Bible says *they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke*. Note what it was that this group was unable to stand against. It was the wisdom and the Spirit in his speech. This new level of anointing affects what and how you speak. There is a flow of Godly wisdom and the Spirit in your speech when you are under the anointing. The Holy Spirit is speaking things through you. And what is spoken rises above what others are saying at that moment. It is the same anointing that was upon Stephen. This anointing and speaking from the realm of the Spirit is greatly needed today. Neither natural man nor the greatest theologian can understand it because it is of the Spirit and not of the flesh. It is an indication of a new level of anointing. Even though Stephen was brought before the religious council they could not rise above his anointing. Although they had to stir up the people and present false witnesses in their attempt to silence him, they all saw something different about him.

- Acts 6:15 And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel.

These religious men and theologians were not resisting a man, but the Holy Spirit. So, they rushed to kill Stephen after he spoke out this truth to them under the anointing of the Spirit.

- Acts 7:54-60 When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with *their teeth*. ⁵⁵ But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, ⁵⁶ and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man

⁵ It has never been fully established just who these men of the Libertines were and just where their synagogue was. It has been identified with Raymond Weill's discovery of an inscr. of a synagogue in Jerusalem. This discovery in 1920 mentions the building of a synagogue by Theodatus, son of Vettenu, priest and chief of the synagogue. The name Vettenu obviously refers to the Rom. family of which he or his father was a slave. When the Jews were freed from their Rom. masters and returned to Jerusalem they became known as "freedmen." <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/toc>.

standing at the right hand of God!”⁵⁷ Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord;⁵⁸ and they cast *him* out of the city and stoned *him*. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.⁵⁹ And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on *God* and saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

What were these men thinking now that they had killed an anointed servant of God? Did they feel relieved that it was over? Did they believe they had taken care of matters to their satisfaction? Did they believe they would not have to hear again about how they had resisted the Holy Spirit? Perhaps they did. However, you cannot kill the anointing! You can resist, threaten, seize, beat, and kill a servant of God but the anointing remains. Now let’s take a brief look at another of the seven deacons.

Philip, like Stephen and the other deacons, met the same criteria for their special assignment. A great persecution against the church arose following the death of Stephen. Many believers left Jerusalem and went forth preaching the word.

- Acts 8:4-8 Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.⁸ And there was great joy in that city.

Another deacon doing great miracles. The anointing in the above account is at a phenomenal level. There are healings and miracles that take place in crusades today, but this is different. The anointing of the Holy Spirit and power brought unity and great joy to an entire city. There is a higher level of anointing that impacted what Philip spoke and what he did. Demons cried out as they left and many who were lame walked. Later, the Spirit transported him supernaturally from one place to another. Philip was found at Azotus (over 18 miles away). ***And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea*** (Acts 8:40). A new level of anointing upon you brings much greater results for the glory of Christ.

The New Level Anointing of Paul

The Apostle Paul is one of the greatest examples of transformation in the Bible and there are many such examples. This young leader approved of the death of Stephen (Acts 8:1). Witnesses of the execution even ***laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul*** (Acts 7:58). Saul would later become Paul, the Apostle, whom God chose to write by the Spirit much of the New Testament. This is an amazing display of the grace of God to transition him from making ***havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison*** (Acts 8:3) to preaching Christ. Of course, the One he was persecuting, Jesus, appeared to him on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:3-9), sent Ananias to heal him, baptize him, and fill him with the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:10-18). What takes place next in the life of this young leader is evidence of an increase in the anointing.

- Acts 9:20-22 Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. ²¹ Then all who heard were amazed, and said, “Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?” ²² But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this *Jesus* is the Christ.

The above verse says Paul *increased all the more in strength*. The anointing empowers you to do what God has called you to do. It is a divine enablement of power that comes upon you. You now can preach, heal the sick, and cast out demons. You can do things you never could do before the anointing came upon you.

ἐνδυναμῶ *endunamoo*, *en-doo-nam-o'-o*; from 1722 and 1412; to empower: — enable, (increase in) strength(-en), be (make) strong.⁶

The Lord wants the anointing to increase to a greater degree upon you. Although Paul immediately preached Christ, it was later on his missionary journeys that a new and increased level of anointing is manifested. Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark had been sent out by the Holy Spirit from the Antioch Church.

- Acts 13:1-4 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. ² As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” ³ Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent *them* away. ⁴ So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. ⁵ And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as *their* assistant.

Note how this group of Ephesian 4:11 leaders were praying, worshiping, and fasting unto the Lord. It was in this spiritual environment that they heard the Spirit speak. It is essential for you to pray in the Spirit. It is in the realm of the Spirit that He speaks. The greater anointing comes upon us when we enter the spirit realm. I believe Paul’s anointing increased to a much higher degree when the other leaders *fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them*. What followed as they sent them away confirms they had received a strong anointing. His ministry on the isle of Paphos revealed a powerful anointing.

Paul’s ministry on the isle of Paphos displayed a new level of anointing. It was when the team tangled with a sorcerer who was also a false prophet.

- Acts 13:4-12 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. ⁵ And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as *their* assistant. ⁶ Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus, ⁷ who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. ⁸ But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹ Then Saul, who also *is called* Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked

⁶ Strong. 1743.

intently at him ¹⁰ and said, “O full of all deceit and all fraud, *you* son of the devil, *you* enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? ¹¹ And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord *is* upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.” And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. ¹² Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

The above encounter reveals that demonic activity is at a high level of resistance to the advance of the Kingdom of Christ. Some prophetic ministries today have warned the church to expect an increase in demonic activity. No matter how much demonic activity increases, it is no match for the empowering anointing upon you. However, it will take a new and greater level of anointing to overcome. This is exactly what we see in this encounter. Elymas, the sorcerer, resisted Paul, but the anointed man of God overcame the demonic spirit. There is a difference between withstanding or opposing and overcoming and destroying. Jesus was manifested for this purpose *to destroy the works of the devil* (1John 3:8). The devil fears the new level anointing upon you. The increased level of anointing upon Paul destroyed the demonic perversion coming through this *son of the devil*. Paul was empowered to speak by the Spirit and the Lord backed him up. Take notice of three additional things in this account:

1. Paul was *filled with the Holy Spirit* (13:9). The Scripture specifically highlights this point.
2. Paul destroyed the demonic spirit, but not the man (13:10-11). The Scripture makes it clear that Elymas would be blind only *for a time*.
3. Sergius Paulus, the proconsul, *believed when he saw what had been done* (13:12).

This new and greater level of anointing upon Paul demonstrated the working of God’s power that brought a man to faith in Christ. This is always the end game of the anointing. The anointing upon you will bring others to Christ. The devil cannot stop you when you are walking and speaking under the anointing.

One final example of Paul’s new level of anointing is in Ephesus. Paul arrives there and immediately encounters twelve disciples. The first thing he asked them was *did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed* (Acts 19:2)? These twelve followers of Jesus seemed to have no knowledge of anything to do with the Holy Spirit. Paul baptizes them in water for repentance (Acts 19:4-5) and then lays his hands upon them to be baptized with the Holy Spirit.

- Acts 19:6-7 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. ⁷ Now the men were about twelve in all.

This represents a clear pattern in the Early Church and young leaders today need to accept it. Enough with theological and religious debates over the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. Just follow the way the Early Church ministered under the anointing. Be filled with the Spirit and pray in tongues and experience greater anointing. You will see very similar results when you do. Paul’s ministry in Ephesus is one of many examples of this. Take a moment to review the ministry pattern in Ephesus and the results that followed:

- 12 Disciples Filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:6-7)
- Paul preaches boldly for 3 months until persecution arises (Acts 19:8-9)
- Paul withdraws the 12 and other disciples to the School of Tyrannus (Acts 19:9)
- Paul equips all the disciples in the Word for 2 Years (Acts 19:9-10)
- All Asia hears the word of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 19:10)
- Paul performs unusual miracles (Acts 19:11-12)
- A citywide deliverance takes place (Acts 13-19)
- ***The word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed*** (Acts 19:20)

I call the above the *Ephesus Strategy* for making disciples⁷.

Paul is operating at a high level of anointing in Ephesus. The biblical account speaks for itself, but it's important to examine how the anointing increases from preaching and teaching the word of God to a display of extraordinary power in his life and ministry.

- **Acts 19:11-20** Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹² so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them. ¹³ Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches." ¹⁴ Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. ¹⁵ And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" ¹⁶ Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. ¹⁸ And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. ¹⁹ Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned *them* in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and *it* totaled fifty thousand *pieces* of silver. ²⁰ So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

Sometimes there are *unusual miracles* that occur at this level of anointing. What does this mean? The Greek phrase used in reference to miracles reveals the true nature of these uncommon displays of God's power.

"**Special** (οὐ τὰς τυχεύσας). A peculiar expression. Lit., *not usual or common*, such as one might *fall in with* frequently."⁸

These miracles are extraordinary displays of the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. Why was it necessary for such miracles to occur? The anointing in articles of clothing is biblical but does not occur frequently according to the definition. However, I believe with the greater anointing of revival fire being ignited today in the young generation, we will see more of these special miracles. Note also that ***God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul***. We learn from this that it is God's power working in you that does such special miracles. The anointing is with the Holy Spirit and power and in this case, it was extended to handkerchiefs and other articles of clothing worn by Paul.

⁷ Michael Gross, 5-Fold Global (2022). For more information on this biblical strategy go to [5-Fold Global Ministries - Equipping Leaders \(5foldglobal.net\)](https://www.5foldglobal.net)

⁸ Marvin R. Vincent (2004). *Word Studies in the New Testament*. Accordance electronic edition, version 1.6. 4 vols.

“God exerted powers that were not according to the common course of nature: *Virtutes non vulgares*. Things were done which could by no means be ascribed either to chance or second causes. Or, they were not only (as all miracles are) *out of the common road*, but they were even uncommon miracles, such miracles as had not been wrought by the hands of any other of the apostles. The opposers of the gospel were so prejudiced that any miracles would not serve their turn; therefore God wrought *virtutes non quaslibet* (so they render it), *something above the common road of miracles*. 2. It was not Paul that wrought them (*What is Paul, and what is Apollos?*) but it was God that *wrought them by the hand of Paul*. He was but the instrument, God was the principal agent... He not only cured the sick that were brought to him, or to whom he was brought, but *from his body were brought to the sick handkerchiefs or aprons*; they got Paul’s handkerchiefs, or his aprons, that is, say some, the aprons he wore when he worked at his trade, and the application of them to the sick cured them immediately.”⁹

Although there has been abuse by some who anoint prayer clothes and send them out for profit to those who contribute to their ministries, it is important to recognize that God does occasionally work such miracles through his anointed servants. Remember, desperate people sought to touch just the hem of Jesus’ clothing and as many as did were healed.

- **Matt. 14:35-36** And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick,³⁶ and begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched *it* were made perfectly well.

You can expect these extraordinary miracles and all signs, wonders, and miracles to increase as a new generation of leaders begin to operate with new and greater levels of anointing. After all, Jesus prophesied that believers in Him would do the works He did and even greater works than these. The anointing of the Holy Spirit and power is what is needed to do what Jesus did, what Elisha did, what Peter, Stephen, Philip, and Paul did. It is time for the young generation to receive the new and greater anointing. Present levels of anointing will not carry you through nor will they bring in the greater harvest in this present age.

- **John 14:12** “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

⁹ Matthew Henry. *Commentary on the Whole Bible (Unabridged)*. Accordance electronic edition, version 1.8. 6 vols. Altamonte Springs: OakTree Software, 2004.

CHAPTER 3: THE ANOINTING OIL

The Missing Oil

The Scriptures present a number of symbols for the Holy Spirit. The Bible identifies at least ten of these symbols:

1. **Dove:** “And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove.” (Mark 1:10)
2. **Fire:** “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” (Matt. 3:11; Luke 3:16; Acts 2:3-4)
3. **Wind:** “The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” (John 3:8; Acts 2:2)
4. **Oil:** “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me...” (Isa. 61:1; Luke 4:18)
5. **Water:** “Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.” (John 4:13-14)
6. **River:** “On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.” (John 7:37-39)
7. **Seal:** “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.” (Eph. 1:13-14)
8. **Rain:** “And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.” (Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:16-21)
9. **Wine:** “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit...” (Eph. 5:18)
10. **Clothes:** “Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” (Luke 24:49)

Each one of the above symbols marks the character, the anointing, and the power associated with the Holy Spirit. They are clear representations of the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. We have already examined the river of the Holy Spirit. Now we will look to see what the Scriptures reveal about the anointing oil. The Bible confirms that oil is very important in relation to the anointing. It is not only important as a symbol, but also as a conductor of the Holy Spirit and power to heal, deliver, break yokes of bondage, and empower for ministry. The anointing, therefore, is in the oil that is poured or applied upon a person or even objects. The anointing oil is used for consecration, for imparting joy, and for healing and deliverance. This is why anointing oil needs to be available and ready to be applied under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

The anointing oil is symbolic of the Holy Spirit and power. Spiritually speaking, the amount of oil in the lamp determines how long the lamp burns and gives light. Remember, the light in the tabernacle where God's presence is was never to go out.

- Ex. 27:20-21 "And you shall command the children of Israel that they bring you pure oil of pressed olives for the light, to cause the lamp to burn continually. ²¹ In the tabernacle of meeting, outside the veil which is before the Testimony, Aaron and his sons shall tend it from evening until morning before the LORD. *It shall be a statute forever to their generations on behalf of the children of Israel.*

The care of the lampstand was dependent upon the amount of oil. The Risen Christ reveals that lampstands represent the churches.

- Rev. 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.

The Lord does not want your light to go out or to even grow dim. He will do something to prevent this. For example, there was a time when the word of the Lord was not respected, but He raised up the prophet Samuel *before the lamp of God went out in the tabernacle of the Lord where the ark of God was* (1Sam. 3:3). It was at this moment *that the Lord called Samuel*. A fresh word from the Lord was about to come forth. I believe the Lord is about to do something before the lamp goes out in many churches today. How much oil do you have in your lamp? This is a big issue with the new generation church. Just how concerned do you need to be about the amount of oil in your lamp? Asking these questions is important because the oil referred to is about the Holy Spirit and His power.

Jesus teaches us that merely having lamps full of oil is not sufficient to meet Him at His return. This presents us with the issue of what Dr. Samuel Isong of Nigeria, one of our 5-Fold Global Directors, calls *The Missing Oil*.

- Matt. 25:1-13 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. ³ Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. ⁵ But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. ⁶ "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' ⁷ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ But the wise answered, saying, "No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. ¹¹ "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' ¹² But he answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³ "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

One of the first things Dr. Isong points out by the Spirit is that the ten represent those who have been truly born again. He compares them to virgins in the Spirit. There is a special revelation and understanding to be received in this parable because it is about the amount of oil and the anointing. Here is what the Lord showed Brother Isong:

“The Lord was talking about the truly, truly saved, the truly, truly born-again children of God. Ten virgins. Believers are virgins. If you’re born-again in Christ, then you’re a virgin, kept and preserved for Jesus. You’re born again, having your name written in the book of life, serving the Lord with rejoicing, having the love of Christ with the fire burning inside. When these ten virgins arrived, when they came away from the city, when they received salvation, when they had Jesus come into their hearts and lives, their names were written in the Lamb’s book of life. They started their journey. The oil was making their lamp and their light last. Their lamp was truly burning. Jesus said I’ll return. Fifty percent were foolish. Fifty percent were wise. And that touches my spirit so much. Only fifty percent were wise. Fifty percent were not. Only fifty percent followed the Lord. And when you read down in the story you discover that fifty percent were thrown out of the Kingdom. They could not meet the Master. Only fifty percent; the wise meet the Lord. What made the five wise? They had enough oil to go the distance and meet Jesus at His return.

The Bible says *five of them were wise and five of them were foolish* (Matt. 25:2). Then you have the revelation that *those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them* (Matt. 25:3). They took their lamps. They took their salvation. They received the Lord Jesus Christ. They were born again. They received peace and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Those that were foolish, they received their names. They had their names written in the Lamb’s Book of Life. And yet the Bible says they *took no oil with them*. But they had oil in their lamp! They had the word of God that was living and walking among them at that time. They were praying at that time. They were reading their Bibles. Sometime ago they were very careful working with the Lord. Sometime ago, when they had left, they had plans to follow and serve the Lord. When they left the world, when they left sin, when they left iniquity, their lamp had oil and their lives were spared. And their life was burning until the returning of the Lord Jesus Christ. They only had working oil. Someone say, *My church is my working oil*. Someone say, *My Bible, the word of God, is my working oil. My teaching and my calling are the working oil*. But you find the foolish waiting for oil. Their lamp was burning, and the oil was still in their lamp. But they did not have a full supply. They only had the oil that was able to carry them at that particular time.”¹⁰

The above message presents an insight into the serious condition of the missing oil in the lives of many believers today. The church that is missing the anointed oil of the Holy Spirit is not ready for the soon return of Christ. Only those who are ready enter in. Jesus said in this parable that *the door was shut* to those who were unprepared. Could it be today that half of the church would be left behind when Jesus returns? Pay careful attention to this most serious situation regarding the missing oil. Make every adjustment in your life and ministry to position yourself under the holy anointed oil dripping from the altar of heaven. If you are wise, you will take this oil and extra for your journey with the Lord. You cannot rely alone on your church involvement, your ministry position, or even the greater works in your ministry. You have to work out your own salvation.

¹⁰ Samuel Isong. Bible Centered Life International Ministries, *The Missing Oil*. Message delivered on May 8, 2022.

- Phil. 2:12-13 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.
- Matt. 7:21-23 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

This means you have to be diligent, humble, and obedient in living out your faith in Jesus. You cannot do this without an anointing. And you need all the anointed oil being poured out from heaven overflowing in your life and ministry. Even the name of the Lord is anointed *oil poured out* (Song of Solomon 1:3). God wants to anoint your head with oil. When He does your cup will run over.

- Psa. 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

I pray this equipping manual will serve to increase your desire for the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power in your life and ministry. The anointing oil associated with the Holy Spirit is a treasure. You need to desire it!

- Prov. 21:20 *There is desirable treasure, And oil in the dwelling of the wise, But a foolish man squanders it.*

A treasure is not just something you desire; it is also something you store up. The wise store up the oil of the Holy Spirit. The foolish use up what they have. Their light grows dimmer over time. This is happening in many churches today. Having begun with a strong anointing they are ending in the flesh. Human wisdom and religious oil have replaced the holy anointing oil of the Holy Spirit from the altar of the Lord. There is missing oil in the church today. Your light cannot shine brightly without this holy anointing oil from heaven. You need to be dripping with this oil of the Holy Spirit to unleash this power in your generation. It is the holy anointed oil from God, the One who anoints you. May it pour down upon you today!

- Isa. 45:8 “Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, And let righteousness spring up together. I, the LORD, have created it.

The Anointed Oil of Consecration

The anointing oil established by God was used for several purposes. It was used for anointing prophets, priests, and kings. It was used for anointing the tabernacle and all its furnishings. It was used to provide continual light. Although these all seem practical uses, it is the connection in the realm of the Holy Spirit that makes the anointing oil valuable from generation to generation. Keep in mind that the anointing oil is created and commanded by God. Therefore, it is sacred or set apart. It is holy! Review the following references to discover some important aspects involving the holy anointing oil.

- Ex. 28:40-41 “For Aaron’s sons you shall make tunics, and you shall make sashes for them. And you shall make hats for them, for glory and beauty. ⁴¹ So you shall put them on Aaron your brother and on his sons with him. You shall anoint them, consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests.
- Ex. 29:7-9 And you shall take the anointing oil, pour it on his head, and anoint him. ⁸ Then you shall bring his sons and put tunics on them. ⁹ And you shall gird them with sashes, Aaron and his sons, and put the hats on them. The priesthood shall be theirs for a perpetual statute. So you shall consecrate Aaron and his sons.
- Ex. 29:29-30 “And the holy garments of Aaron shall be his sons’ after him, to be anointed in them and to be consecrated in them. ³⁰ That son who becomes priest in his place shall put them on for seven days, when he enters the tabernacle of meeting to minister in the holy *place*.
- Ex. 29:35-37 “Thus you shall do to Aaron and his sons, according to all that I have commanded you. Seven days you shall consecrate them. ³⁶ And you shall offer a bull every day as a sin offering for atonement. You shall cleanse the altar when you make atonement for it, and you shall anoint it to sanctify it. ³⁷ Seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and sanctify it. And the altar shall be most holy. Whatever touches the altar must be holy.
- Ex. 30:25-31 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. ²⁶ With it you shall anoint the tabernacle of meeting and the ark of the Testimony; ²⁷ the table and all its utensils, the lampstand and its utensils, and the altar of incense; ²⁸ the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the laver and its base. ²⁹ You shall consecrate them, that they may be most holy; whatever touches them must be holy. ³⁰ And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister to Me as priests. ³¹ “And you shall speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘This shall be a holy anointing oil to Me throughout your generations.’
- Ex. 31:10-11 ...the garments of ministry, the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons, to minister as priests, ¹¹ and the anointing oil and sweet incense for the holy *place*. According to all that I have commanded you they shall do.”
- Lev. 8:10-12 Also Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it, and consecrated them. ¹¹ He sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times, anointed the altar and all its utensils, and the laver and its base, to consecrate them. ¹² And he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron’s head and anointed him, to consecrate him.
- Lev. 11:44 For I *am* the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I *am* holy. Neither shall you defile yourselves with any creeping thing that creeps on the earth.
- Lev. 20:7 Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I *am* the LORD your God.

It is clear that the anointing oil is directly linked to your consecration or separation unto the Lord. Remember, it is not the oil itself, but the anointing in the oil that sets you apart for His service. The anointing oil also purifies and sanctifies you before the Lord. It has a cleansing quality to it. When the anointing oil was poured upon a person’s head they would be set apart for the Lord. The same would be true when the anointing oil was poured over an object. As we indicated in chapter one of our study these four words are intricately connected to the servants of God: *Anoint*, *Consecrate*, *Sanctify*, and then *Minister*. Some of these words are used interchangeably in the Hebrew text. For example, *consecrate* and *sanctify* come from the same Hebrew word, *quadash* (kaw-dash’). It means *to be or to make clean, appoint, consecrate, dedicate, prepare, proclaim, purify, sanctify in order to be or keep one or a place*

holy.¹¹ Sometimes the Hebrew *yad* (yawd), a primitive word for *hand*, is used for *consecrate* in these verses. I found this to be a very interesting discovery directly pointing to the anointing oil and the laying on of hands for consecration. According to the Hebrew this involves the extending of an open hand indicating power, means, and direction for the one being anointed. You will discover that these words are repeatedly used in the consecration of the priests chosen to minister and the tabernacle in the wilderness. They could not minister unto the Lord or in the tabernacle without the anointing they received from the anointed oil of consecration. This reveals much about the church today because the tabernacle is referred to in the New Testament as the church. Stephen made this crystal clear in his defense of the Gospel before the religious authorities in Jerusalem.

- Acts 7:37-39 “This is that Moses who said to the children of Israel, ‘*The LORD* your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. *Him you shall hear.*’³⁸ “This is he who was in the congregation (*ekklesia*) in the wilderness with the Angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and *with* our fathers, the one who received the living oracles to give to us,³⁹ whom our fathers would not obey, but rejected. And in their hearts they turned back to Egypt,

If you look more closely into the above verses, you will notice that Stephen actually declared that Jesus Christ was with the church then and He is with the church now. Christ, the Anointed One, was speaking to them the *living oracles* of God and He is speaking to the church today. The Apostle Paul points out that Christ was their Rock. He is the same Anointed One who anoints and speaks the living word to the church today.

- 1Cor. 10:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,² all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,³ all ate the same spiritual food,⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

The anointed oil of consecration also sets you in position to minister under the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. The priests of the Old Testament could not minister until they had been anointed. The Bible says, *You shall anoint them, consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to Me as priests* (Ex. 28:41). We have seen that prophets would fill their horns with oil at the command of God (1Sam. 16:1). They would anoint priests to set them apart or consecrate them for the work of the Lord (Ex. 30:30). In addition, when God chose a king, the king was anointed with oil (1Sam. 10:1). He was then considered *the Lord's anointed* (1Sam. 24:6). The Spirit of the Lord would then come upon them (1Sam. 16:14). The Spirit of the Lord would *rest* upon kings, priests, and prophets after they were anointed with oil. The prophet Isaiah, speaking of the coming Messiah, the Anointed One, reveals that *the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him* (Isa. 11:2). Our Lord Jesus Christ is our model for the anointing. This means the Spirit would *set down* or *fall upon* them to separate them for the work the Lord has called them to do. Therefore, the anointing oil for consecration was linked to the Holy Spirit. But what about the New Testament? Does

¹¹ James Strong. *Strong's Hebrew and Chaldee Dictionary of the Old Testament*. Accordance electronic edition, version 3.3. Altamonte Springs: OakTree Software, 1999, . Num. 6942.

this practice of anointing servants of God flow into the New Testament. Although I cannot find an example in the New Testament of using literal anointing oil to consecrate leaders and believers for the Lord's service, the symbolism is there, in relation to the laying on of hands. Remember, the anointing is all about the Holy Spirit and power to fulfill the calling upon your life for the glory of Christ and the benefit of others. Therefore, a very noticeable and special anointing from God falls upon leaders and believers when others lay hands on them to commission and consecrate them for a given ministry. The seven deacons were set apart to oversee the daily distribution of food to the needy through the laying on of the apostles' hands. These men were *set before the apostles* and set apart for a specific ministry assignment.

- Acts 6:5-6 And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, ⁶ whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

Note that they were already full of faith and the Holy Spirit. But this was a consecration for a special ministry assignment that required an anointing. The result of the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power in consecration was that *the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly* (Acts 6:7).

Paul and Barnabas were also set apart for the work of the Lord when certain prophets and teachers laid their hands on them.

- Acts 13:2-3 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, having fasted and prayed, they laid hands on them, they sent them away.

It was during an act of worship that the Holy Spirit spoke to them. The worship of the Lord invites the Spirit to speak. The fact that the Spirit says, *Separate to Me* reveals that the Lord does set apart and anoint those for special ministry assignments. The Greek *aphorizo* (af-or-id'-zo) literally means to *set off by boundary* and to *appoint*.¹² It is important to understand that it was the Holy Spirit who separated them for His work. He was the One who sent them forth with the necessary anointing to fulfill their ministry assignment. I believe this is true for every leader and believer today. Someone may not have anointed you with physical oil to set you apart, but the anointed oil of consecration is symbolically there in the laying on of hands consecrating you for the Lord's service.

One final New Testament example concerns the young man Timothy. Paul and Silas met him in Lystra on Paul's 2nd missionary journey (Acts 16:1-5). This young man, among many others, would develop into a prominent servant of the Lord in the Early Church. His name appears 24 times in Paul's letters. Two apostolic epistles are addressed to Timothy. The following verses again confirm that this young man was anointed, consecrated, and sanctified for the ministry.

¹² Strong. 873. ἀφορίζω *aphorizo*, *af-or-id'-zo*; from 575 and 3724; to set off by boundary, i.e. (figuratively) limit, exclude, appoint, etc.: – divide, separate, sever.

- 1Tim. 4:14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.
- 2Tim. 1:6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

Note that Timothy had a gift deposited in him or it can also mean upon him. The gift or *charisma* in the Greek refers to a *spiritual endowment* or a *miraculous faculty* given freely by the Lord.¹³ Subjectively, it can be considered a qualification for ministry. If you view the anointing to be consecrated for ministry as a gift, an endowment, from the Lord, then what Paul is saying to Timothy makes perfect sense. The Lord makes an investment like an endowment in you when He anoints you for His service. This invested anointing is for a specific ministry assignment established by the Lord to advance His purpose through you. The Lord invests the anointing in and upon you as an endowment. The gift of the anointing is a sacred blessing from God that was given to young Timothy through the laying on of hands. This understanding of the anointing as a gift also applies to the Ephesians 4:11 ministry gifts.

- Eph. 4:7-16 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.⁸ Therefore He says: "*When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.*"⁹ (Now this, "*He ascended*"—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?¹⁰ He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)¹¹ And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

I have spent a lifetime seeking to understand the fivefold ministry gifts and to implement their ministries and anointings on our 5-Fold Global strategic mission operations. The Holy Spirit always leads believers deeper into the word of God. And when we launch deeper into the Word, the Spirit adds to our understanding, things that are vital to our lives and ministries. One of those things is the understanding of the anointing as a spiritual endowment. The ascension gifts of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers are presented as gifts given by Christ. Only some are called to these leadership gifts. There is a special purpose for those called into these offices or functions of ministry. Those called must be anointed and consecrated to minister. Christ's gift upon us is measured by degree.¹⁴ This further confirms the understanding of the anointing as the Lord's investment into the men and women of God chosen to serve Him as Ephesian 4:11 leaders.

¹³ Strong. **5486. χάρισμα charisma**, *khar'-is-mah*; from 5483; a (divine) gratuity, i.e. deliverance (from danger or passion); (specially), a (spiritual) endowment, i.e. (subjectively) religious qualification, or (objectively) miraculous faculty: — (free) gift.

¹⁴ Ibid. **3358. μέτρον metron**, *met'-ron*; an apparently primary word; a measure ("metre"), literally or figuratively; by implication, a limited portion (degree): — measure.

The young generation needs to get serious about the anointing oil of consecration represented in the laying on of hands. The anointing upon your life and ministry is not to be taken lightly. This is exactly what Paul was warning Timothy about. The following chart clearly shows you what not to do and what to do concerning the anointing, the spiritual investment, the Lord makes upon your life and ministry:

Do Not Neglect the Gift (2Tim. 4:14)	Stir Up the Gift (1Tim. 1:6)
Don't be careless of, don't make light of, don't be negligent of, don't disregard.	Be quick and lively about, rekindle, fire up, fan into flame.

This is why the Word says to yield your body as a living sacrifice unto God.

- Rom. 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable service.* ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

This is an act of worship, an act of surrender, and an act of obedience that releases the anointing upon your life and ministry. You are enabled and empowered by the anointing upon you. Jesus officially esteems you faithful for the work He has called you to. He put you in the ministry. He anoints you. He consecrates you for the ministry. Be thankful to the Lord Jesus Christ. Great grace is upon you.

- 1Tim. 1:12-17 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry, ¹³ although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴ And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. ¹⁶ However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.*

The Anointed Oil of Healing

Christian author, Hope Bolinger, makes an interesting observation. *The practice of anointing with oil doesn't appear to stretch much beyond the Gospels, which makes some Christians wonder if believers should still use the practice today. Should we still anoint with oil?* ¹⁵ Although there are different views in the church on the practice of anointing with oil, the Bible confirms the practice continued in the Early Church. I discovered in my research that there are only two places in the New Testament where the anointing appears as a noun. In both cases it refers to the anointing within every believer. ¹⁶ Anointing in all other instances appears as a verb implying an action to be taken. Anointing, therefore, is almost always a

¹⁵ Hope Bolinger. *Why is Anointing Oil Important in the Bible.* October 20, 2020.

¹⁶ See 1John 2:20, 27.

verb. This is significant because it addresses the issue of whether we should still anoint with oil today. Keep in mind, we are only considering here the references to the practice of anointing with oil in the New Testament. Anointing with oil is only one aspect of the anointing.

The Greek verb *aleipho* (al-i'-fo) is used nine times in the New Testament in reference to anointing with oil. It directly involves anointing with literal oil. Some of these references are duplicate accounts, however, it is important to see them all.

- Matthew 6:17 But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,
- Mark 6:13 And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed *them*.
- Mark 16:1 Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary *the mother* of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.
- Luke 7:38 and stood at His feet behind *Him* weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped *them* with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed *them* with the fragrant oil.
- Luke 7:46 You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil.
- John 11:2 It was *that* Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.
- John 12:3 Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.
- James 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.”

There are also five references in the New Testament using the Greek word *chrío* (kree'-o) which presents the idea of anointing with oil; however, the accounts do not specifically mention the use of oil.¹⁷ Four of these references pertain to the Holy Spirit upon Jesus similar to the pouring of oil. The fifth occurrence reveals the same Holy Spirit pouring upon us like oil.

- Luke 4:18 *“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;*
- Acts 4:27 *“For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together...*
- Acts 10:38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.
- 2Cor. 1:21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us *is* God,
- Heb. 1:8 But to the Son *He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”*

Three final references use the Greek words *epichrio* (ep-ee-khree'-o) and *egchrio* (eng-khree'-o). These words are forms of *chrío* and again imply the use of oil.¹⁸ However, in the account of the blind man Jesus used a mixture of clay and saliva.

¹⁷ Strong. 5548. *χρίω chrío*, *khree'-o*; probably akin to 5530 through the idea of contact; to smear or rub with oil, i.e. (by implication) to consecrate to an office or religious service: – anoint.

¹⁸ Ibid. 2025. *ἐπιχρίω epichrio*, *ep-ee-khree'-o*; from 1909 and 5548; to smear over: – anoint. 1472. *ἐγγρίω egchrio*, *eng-khree'-o*; from 1722 and 5548; to rub in (oil), i.e. besmear: – anoint.

- John 9:6-7 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. ⁷ And He said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.
- John 9:11 He answered and said, “A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed, and I received sight.”
- Rev. 3:18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

Take a moment to review all these 17 references in the New Testament where the Greek words that are used directly or indirectly point to the anointing with oil. You will discover several of them involve healing the sick and the blind. In this section, we will examine the practice of anointing the sick with oil.

There are many examples of Jesus, the Apostles, and others later in the Early Church healing the sick. At least ten references in the Gospels refer to multitudes bringing the sick to Jesus for healing. Obviously, they brought the sick to Jesus because He had the power to heal them. We refer to this power as *the healing anointing*. The anointing upon Jesus included the power to heal all those who were sick. Jesus was anointed to preach, heal, set captives free, and announce the Kingdom of God. The healing ministry was very prominent in His ministry.

- Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. (See also Isaiah 61:1-2.)

Although there are different reasons we experience sickness, Acts 10:38 reveals that it is often the result of the devil’s work.

- Acts 10:38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

This does not mean, however, that this is always the case. People sometimes get sick because they do not take care of themselves, or they do not adhere to the established laws of nature. In the above Acts reference, the Greek word for *oppressed* is a strong word meaning *to exercise dominion against*.¹⁹ It indicates a harsh oppression against a person. Sickness and disease are the result of a fallen world, and believers are not immune from demonic attacks of this nature. However, God anointed Jesus with power to overcome Satan’s dominion and heal all those oppressed by him. In fact, a primary purpose for the first coming of Jesus was to destroy the works of the devil.

- 1John 3:8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

¹⁹ Strong. 2616. καταδυναστεύω katadunasteuo, kat-ad-oo-nas-tyoo'-o; from 2596 and a derivative of 1413; to exercise dominion against, i.e. oppress: – oppress.

The works Jesus destroyed included sicknesses and diseases oppressing the people. Jesus was anointed to preach and also to heal. Sometimes it was the faith of individuals or their friends that released the healing power. Other times they laid their hands upon the sick and they were healed. They also preached the Word, and many were healed. Healing miracles were a normal occurrence in their ministries. And, among these ways of releasing God's power to heal is anointing the sick with oil in the name of Jesus. Jesus sent out His disciples with authority and power to preach the Kingdom, cast out demons, and heal the sick. He also sent the seventy out with the same anointing.

- **Matt. 10:1, 7-8** And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease...And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.
- **Mark 3:14-15** Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons.
- **Mark 6:7** And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.
- **Luke 9:1-2** Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.
- **Luke 10:1, 9** After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go...And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Furthermore, Jesus said the healing of the sick would be one of the signs following believers.

- **Mark 16:17-18** And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

The healing ministry detailed above involves a healing anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. And it continued throughout the Early Church in the same ways it manifested when Jesus walked on the earth. Let's make a simple comparison of the healing ministry in the New Testament as it directly relates to the use of the literal anointed oil of healing. What does the chart below tell you about the use of anointing oil in the context of healing?

The 12 Disciples	The Early Church
<p>Mark 6:12-13 So they went out and preached that <i>people</i> should repent. ¹³ And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed <i>them</i>.</p>	<p>James 5:14-15 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.</p>

First of all, it should be obvious to you that anointing the sick with oil in the name of Jesus is one of the ways to release His power or anointing to heal them. Secondly, this practice continued in the Early Church after Jesus ascended. Thirdly, anointing the sick with oil is to continue in the church today. Keep in mind that this does not mean the sick are to be anointed with oil as an exclusive means of praying for them. You need to exercise discernment for every situation but have pure olive oil ready when the Spirit directs you to anoint the sick in this way.

The church today needs spiritual healing in many places around the world just as much as the sick need physical healing. Jesus is the Head of the church. No one else has this position. It is His alone. It is His church. He is also the fullness of the church.

- Eph. 1:22-23 And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church,²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Stay under the Lordship of Jesus Christ in order to reach your full potential in life and ministry when it comes to the anointing. This includes anointing the sick with oil and everything else you do with the anointing that is extended to you. Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, also directs His church to anoint the eyes with an ointment, in a spiritual sense.

- Rev. 3:14-22 “And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: ¹⁵ “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. ¹⁷ Because you say, “I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.* ¹⁹ As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. ²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. ²¹ To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. ²² “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ ”

The anointing referred to above appears to be a spiritual one and not a physical anointing with eye salve. Jesus is using physical references like *you are neither cold nor hot, gold refined in the fire, white garments,* and *anoint your eyes with eye salve* as figures of speech.²⁰ So, what advice is Jesus giving the church concerning the anointing of our eyes? He is saying that our eyes need to be spiritually anointed and healed to see and hear *what the Spirit says to the churches* (Rev. 3:22). Paul prayed for the church at Ephesus:

- Eph. 1:15-21 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord

²⁰ The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a figure of speech as “a form of expression (such as a simile or metaphor) used to convey meaning or heighten effect often by comparing or identifying one thing with another that has a meaning or connotation familiar to the reader or listener.” According to the Macmillan Dictionary, a figure of speech is defined as “an expression in which the words are used figuratively, not in their normal literal meaning.”

Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

What I noticed in the above prayer is that receiving *the spirit of wisdom and revelation* (Eph. 1:17) is dependent on *the eyes of your understanding being enlightened* (Eph. 1:18). Paul is not referring to natural or human understanding but that which comes by the anointing Jesus referred to, the anointing of the eyes.

- 1Cor. 2:9-14 But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” ¹⁰ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. ¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Therefore, the counsel of the Lord to figuratively anoint our eyes with ointment reveals that a greater anointing is needed to see more clearly into the realm of the Spirit. A greater level of anointing opens your eyes to see *the deep things of God* and that *which the Holy Spirit teaches*. The anointing enlightens your understanding. You see what the Spirit sees. You begin to speak what the Spirit says. You are a son or daughter of the Lord whose understanding has been enlightened. The Greek word *photizo* (fo-tid’-zo) means to shed rays of light and fire.²¹ The new generation church needs to be illuminated with the fire and light of the anointing with the Holy Spirit.

The Anointed Oil of Gladness

God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power. This was not all the Lord was anointed with. The Bible says Jesus, God’s Son, was anointed with the *oil of gladness*.

- Heb. 1:8-9 But to the Son He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”
- Psa. 45:6-8 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. ⁷ You love righteousness and hate wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You

²¹ Strong. 5461. φωτίζω photizo, fo-tid’-zo; from 5457; to shed rays, i.e. to shine or (transitively) to brighten up (literally or figuratively): – enlighten, illuminate, (bring to, give) light, make to see. 5457. φῶς phos, face; from an obsolete φάω phao (to shine or make manifest, especially by rays; compare 5316, 5346); luminousness (in the widest application, natural or artificial, abstract or concrete, literal or figurative): – fire, light.

With the oil of gladness more than Your companions. ⁸ All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia, Out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad.

- Isa. 61:1-3 “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³ To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”

You can see from the above Scriptures that the oil is used symbolically for an anointing with gladness or joy. The Greek word translated as gladness is best understood *to be exceeding glad with exceeding joy*.²² The Amplified Bible says, *Therefore God [even] Your God (Godhead), has anointed You with the oil of exultant joy and gladness above and beyond Your companions* (Heb. 1:9). Paul told the Philippian Church to *rejoice in the Lord always* (Phil. 4:4). The Holy Spirit inspired him to add an exclamation to his admonition saying, *Again I will say, rejoice!* Always means constantly and in all circumstances. It will take a strong anointing of the oil of joy to greatly rejoice in the Lord no matter what you are going through. An unbelieving world needs to see the joy of the Lord in believers today. Not just a little joy but exceeding joy. Not fake joy but real joy in Christ Jesus, our Lord. This joy is something that comes upon you figuratively speaking as an anointing oil. You should not find this surprising *for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit* (Rom. 14:17). This joy is not natural; it is in the Holy Spirit. Some try to manufacture it, but you have to be in the Spirit to receive the anointed oil of gladness and joy in your life.

One of the most remarkable things about the anointed oil of gladness is that the exceeding joy and rejoicing in the Lord does not stop when there is trouble or even persecution. The religious council arrested and beat the apostles for teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ, the Anointed One. They even commanded them that they should not speak in the name of Jesus (Acts 5:40). If it wasn't for the advice of Gamaliel, they would have killed them. But once they let the apostles go, we read this:

- Acts 5:41-42 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. ⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

How could these men of God respond in such a way? It is because they saw Jesus carry the joy anointing on His way to the cross.

- Heb. 12:1-2 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

²² Strong. 20. ἀγαλλίασις *agalliasis*, *ag-al-lee'-as-is*; from 21; exultation; specially, welcome: – gladness, (exceeding) joy. 21. ἀγαλλιάω *agalliao*, *ag-al-lee-ah'-o*; from ἄγαν *agan* (much) and 242; properly, to jump for joy, i.e. exult: – be (exceeding) glad, with exceeding joy, rejoice (greatly).

Note how the joy was set before Him in advance of His suffering on the cross. This confirms that the anointing oil of joy is necessary before a time of trouble. Jesus carried the joy before, during, and after the cross. The apostles and believers in the Early Church carried the same joy in the Lord during difficult trials of faith. In fact, they were exhorted to *count it all joy*.

- James 1:2-4 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

The Greek word *hegeomai* (hayg-eh'-om-ahee) translated as *count it* has a very unusual meaning in the area of spiritual authority.²³ Could it be that the anointing with the oil of joy strengthens you in the Lord and helps you to rise above and even rule over difficult circumstances? I really believe this is the case when the Scripture says, *count it all joy when you fall into various trials*. And the joy anointing helps you to patiently endure every trial. This joy in the Lord is good for you.

One of the most quoted verses about joy is when Nehemiah, Ezra, and the Levites who taught the people declared a holy day and told them not to sorrow *for the joy of the LORD is your strength* (Neh. 8:10). We learn two very important things about the anointing with the oil of joy. First, it is *the joy of the LORD*. It is not your joy that you are anointed with. It comes from the Lord. You receive His joy. What happens when this anointing comes upon you. It becomes your strength! This strength is similar to a rock or a fortified place.²⁴ In this strength from the anointing with the oil of joy, you are able to prevail. The church today needs a fresh anointing of joy. You don't see much of it when you look over the people of God in churches today. One final point on the anointed oil of joy is that the Lord desires you to be filled with it. Jesus prayed that His joy would be fulfilled in us.

- John 17:13 But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

This literally means He wants you to overflow with His joy. The disciples of the Early Church were filled and overflowing with His joy. The joy anointing they had waits for you. Every Christian needs to follow their example. Be filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

- Acts 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

²³ Strong. 2233. ἡγεῖσθαι *hegeomai*, hayg-eh'-om-ahee; middle voice of a (presumed) strengthened form of 71; to lead, i.e. command (with official authority); figuratively, to deem, i.e. consider: – account, (be) chief, count, esteem, governor, judge, have the rule over, suppose, think. 71. ἄγω *ago*, ag'-o; a primary verb; properly, to lead; by implication, to bring, drive, (reflexively) go, (specially) pass (time), or (figuratively) induce: – be, bring (forth), carry, (let) go, keep, lead away, be open.

²⁴ Ibid. 4581. מְעוֹז *ma'owz*, maw-oze'; (also מְעוֹז *ma'uwz*, maw-ooz'); or מְעוֹז *ma'oz*, maw-oze'; (also מְעוֹז *ma'uz*, maw-ooz'; from 5810; a fortified place; figuratively, a defence:–force, fort(-ress), rock, strength(-en), (x most) strong (hold). 5810. צָזַז *azaz*, aw-zaz'; a primitive root; to be stout (literally or figuratively):–harden, impudent, prevail, strengthen (self), be strong.

CHAPTER 4: THE FIRE ANOINTING

The Fire and the Glory

Fire is another symbol that helps us to understand the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. In this chapter we are going to examine the anointing as a powerful fire of the Spirit that is destined to spread throughout the world. Although Paul exhorted the Thessalonian Church to *test all things* (1Thess. 5:21), he also sternly warned them: *Do not quench the Spirit* (1Thess. 5:19). Here are what some of my study bibles have to say about this verse:

- “Quenching the Spirit, as in this verse, means to extinguish the operations of the Spirit, physically and spiritually, as if dousing a blazing fire.”²⁵
- “Paul equates despising and rejecting the expressions of the Holy Spirit in the church with putting out the Spirit’s fire.”²⁶
- “To quench carries the idea of dampening the flame of the Holy Spirit fire, which is poured out to purify, enlighten, warm, melt, and consume. Quenching may be either by an inadequate, chilled response or an exaggerated disruptive response.”²⁷

It is clear that the Holy Spirit’s fire is not to be dampened, chilled, or put out in any way. Recently, I was in a church service where the people were encouraged to experience the Holy Spirit. I suddenly heard the Spirit say to me, *Stop Trying to Domesticate Me!* I wondered what this meant so I researched the definition of domestication.

“The process of hereditary reorganization of wild animals and plants into domestic and cultivated forms according to the interests of people. In its strictest sense, it refers to the initial stage of human mastery of wild animals and plants. The fundamental distinction of domesticated animals and plants from their wild ancestors is that they are created by human labor to meet specific requirements or whims and are adapted to the conditions of continuous care and solicitude people maintain for them.”²⁸

Note that the above definition centers around the *interests of people, human mastery, human labor, and human requirements and whims*. The result is, spiritually speaking, that the Spirit’s fire, the Spirit’s anointing, and the Spirit’s power are diminished in church services. You no longer hear the mention of the Holy Spirit in many churches. There is little to no evidence of spiritual fire. The fire of the Spirit has been domesticated under the careful oversight of church leaders who are somewhat fearful of the wildfire nature of the Spirit’s fire. I remember the testimony of the late Nora Lam, a Chinese Christian Protestant who suffered while pregnant

²⁵ *The Revival Study Bible* (2010). Armour Publishing, Singapore. 1Thess. 4:19 *Do not Quench the Spirit*, p. 1668.

²⁶ *Fire Bible: Global Study Edition* (2009). Life Publishers, Springfield, MO. 5:19-20 *DO NOT PUT OUT THE SPIRIT’S FIRE*, p. 2316.

²⁷ *Spirit Filled Life Bible*, 3rd Edition (2018). Thomas Nelson, Nashville, TN. 5:19, 20, p. 1757.

²⁸ *Britannica*, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "domestication". Encyclopedia Britannica, <https://www.britannica.com/science/domestication>. Accessed 23 May 2023.

in a labor camp but was miraculously saved from a firing squad. In her autobiography and movie, *China Cry*, she tells her communist persecutors, *You cannot control the Holy Spirit any more than you can control the wind.*²⁹ This was what Jesus attempted to teach Nicodemus about the Spirit.

- **John 3:8** The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

The church today needs an exodus from spiritual Egypt. It is not an exodus into the wilderness. It is an exodus into the fire and glory of the Lord. In this section, we are going to take a closer look at the Spirit’s fire and the manifestation of God’s glory. There is a unique spiritual connection between the fire and glory of God.

One day I heard the Spirit speak into my heart to read Leviticus. It was the last thing I wanted to do at the time. I even questioned whether I had heard from the Spirit. Nevertheless, I obeyed and read the entire book. I was amazed as the Spirit illuminated these words from the sixth chapter.

- **Lev. 6:9** The fire of the altar shall be kept burning.
- **Lev. 6:12** And the fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not be put out.
- **Lev. 6:13** A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out.
- **Lev. 6:18** *t shall be a statute forever in your generations concerning the offerings made by fire to the LORD. Everyone who touches them must be holy.*’

The Lord was teaching me about holy fire. The fire from God’s altar is holy. It is set apart just like the holy anointing oil we examined in the previous chapter. I also learned three other things about the holy fire from these verses in Leviticus:

1. The Fire of God is not to go out. Jesus baptizes you with the Holy Spirit and fire. The spiritual fire is not to go out!
2. An acceptable sacrifice, a pure surrender and consecration to the Lord draws the heavenly fire upon you and upon your life, and upon your calling and ministry. The fire anointing is real!
3. The Fire of God is available to you today. It is a forever statute from generation to generation.

God brought His people out of Egypt *by strength of hand of the Lord* (Exodus 13:3, 9, 14, 16). God took hold of His people and at the same time prevailed against the enemy *that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD* (Exodus 14:4, 18).

- **Ex. 13:20-22** So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness. ²¹ And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. ²² He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night *from* before the people.
- **Ex. 14:13-14** And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

²⁹ Nora Lam; Richard H. Schneider (1991) [1st pub with Irene Burk Harrell HarperCollins 1983]. *China Cry: The Nora Lam Story* (Paperback ed.). Nashville: Thomas Nelson. ISBN 978-0840731876.

- Ex. 14:24 Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians.

There are several things that stand out in the above account. It is clear that God led the way. And it was through the fire and the cloud of glory that He guided them on the way. The fire and the glory of the Lord produced a guiding and protective light for His people. Keep that in mind as we go deeper into the Scriptures. The protection the fire of the Spirit provided included a complete triumph over the enemy. Meditate on this for a moment, *the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever*. Now, apply that to any oppression the devil sends your way. Note also that the Lord troubled the enemy army. This means He caused quite a commotion. He greatly disturbed them. He broke them, crushed them, and destroyed the enemy.³⁰ Even the Egyptian army recognized the Lord was fighting for Israel. The Lord is fighting for you too. The same spiritual fire is with us today in Christ. The prophet Zechariah declared this truth:

- Zechariah 2:5 And I myself will be a wall of fire around it,' declares the LORD, 'and I will be its glory within.

What kind of wall is the prophet speaking of? The Hebrew *chomah* (kho-maw') is an active participle referring to a wall of protection.³¹ This wall of protection is not referring to an earthly army because the Lord declares, *I myself will be a wall of fire around it*. The fire is around it and the glory of the Lord is within. Is this not what Jesus should be for the church today, the fire around and the glory within, around, and upon? Look what happened on Mount Carmel where Elijah faced 450 prophets of Baal, and 400 prophets of Asherah. One prophet of God against 850 false prophets whom the wicked Jezebel fed at her table (1Kings 18:19). We discover something amazing about God in this standoff.

- 1Kings 18:24 Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken."

The Mount Carmel victory came because God *answers by fire*. Most of the time when we think of fire in the biblical or spiritual sense, we think of judgment and hell. Certainly, the everlasting fire of hell, the lake of fire is real; however, it must be placed in its proper context. It is not God's will *that any should perish but that all should come to repentance* (2Peter 3:9). Although many will spend eternity in the eternal fire of hell because they rejected Christ, God did not create hell for them as the following Scripture indicates.

- Matt. 25:41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'

³⁰ Strong. 2000. חָמַם *hamam*, *haw-mam'*; a primitive root (compare 1949, 1993); properly, to put in commotion; by implication, to disturb, drive, destroy:—break, consume, crush, destroy, discomfit, trouble, vex.

³¹ Ibid. 2346. חוֹמָה *chowmah*, *kho-maw'*; feminine active participle of an unused root apparently meaning to join; a wall of protection:—wall, walled.

This is why God prevented James and John from calling down the fire of judgment upon a Samaritan village that would not receive Jesus (Luke 9:51-56). And don't forget Abraham's example of intercession before the fire of judgment fell from heaven upon wicked Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 18:16-33). His intercession saved Lot, his wife, and two daughters. The measure of iniquity must be full for the fire of judgment to fall as was the case with the Amorites whose iniquity was *not yet complete* or *not yet full* (Gen. 15:16). Iniquity has dramatically increased in this generation. Only God knows how near it is to the environment of Sodom and Gomorrah. The world's inhabitants need to understand that God will not wink or overlook the alarming rise of iniquity from generation to generation. There is an appointed time for the fire of judgment.

- Acts 17:30-31 (KJV) And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: ³¹ Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

There are four important truths about the fire of God that can have a significant impact on the anointing in your life and ministry.

1. Fire always consumes something! God goes before you *as a consuming fire* to destroy the enemy camp, territorial spirits, wicked spirits, and all demonic forces. Unclean lips and thoughts are also consumed by the Spirit's fire upon you and within you. The fire of God moves everything that does not belong in your life and ministry out of the way.
 - Deut. 9:1-3 "Hear, O Israel: You *are* to cross over the Jordan today, and go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than yourself, cities great and fortified up to heaven, ² a people great and tall, the descendants of the Anakim, whom you know, and *of whom* you heard *it said*, "Who can stand before the descendants of Anak?" ³ Therefore understand today that the LORD your God *is* He who goes over before you as a consuming fire. He will destroy them and bring them down before you; so you shall drive them out and destroy them quickly, as the LORD has said to you.
 - Heb. 12:28-29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. ²⁹ For our God *is* a consuming fire.
 - Is. 6:6-7 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth *with it*, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."
2. The Lord speaks from the midst of the fire. The voice of the Lord is heard *in the midst of the fire*. You hear His words so He can instruct you. He talks to you. He declares His word to you. He instructs you out of His great and flaming fire. The word of God is a burning fire in you. Even your mouth is anointed with the Spirit's fire to speak and minister.
 - Deut. 4:12 And the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the sound of the words, but saw no form; *you only heard* a voice.

- Deut 5:4-5 The LORD talked with you face to face on the mountain from the midst of the fire. ⁵ I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to declare to you the word of the LORD; for you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up the mountain. *He* said:
 - Deut. 4:36 Out of heaven He let you hear His voice, that He might instruct you; on earth He showed you His great fire, and you heard His words out of the midst of the fire.
 - Is. 4:3-6 And it shall come to pass that *he who is* left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy—everyone who is recorded among the living in Jerusalem. ⁴ When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning, ⁵ then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there *will be* a covering. ⁶ And there will be a tabernacle for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain.
 - Ezek. 1:26-28 And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it. ²⁷ Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around. ²⁸ Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.
 - Obadiah 17-18 “But on Mount Zion there shall be deliverance, And there shall be holiness; The house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. ¹⁸ The house of Jacob shall be a fire, And the house of Joseph a flame; But the house of Esau *shall be* stubble; They shall kindle them and devour them, And no survivor shall *remain* of the house of Esau,” For the LORD has spoken.
 - Jer. 5:14 Therefore thus says the LORD God of hosts: “Because you speak this word, Behold, I will make My words in your mouth fire, And this people wood, And it shall devour them.
 - Jer. 20:9 Then I said, “I will not make mention of Him, Nor speak anymore in His name.” But His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not.
 - Jer. 23:29 “Is not My word like a fire?” says the LORD, “And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”
3. Tongues of fire are sent from heaven. Your tongue is anointed with the Pentecost fire of the Holy Spirit. The fire of the Spirit sits upon you. You speak in a new tongue you have not learned. The Spirit’s fire goes forth from you. You carry the holy fire of the Spirit.
- Acts 2:1-4 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
4. Fire exists in the flaming stages. The fire is rekindled. The burning embers of the Spirit are fanned into flames in your life and ministry. The light of Christ increases in you. It glitters inside and outside of you. Your countenance shines more brightly with the fire and glory of the Lord.
- Psa. 29:7 The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.

- **2Tim. 1:6-7** Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (Note: Fire needs to be rekindled to maintain the flames).

A number of blessings are also associated with the fire anointing. There needs to be a greater understanding of these blessings.

- Illumination/Protection – Exodus 13:21; 14:19-20; Psalm 78:14
- Purification/Cleansing/Refining - Isaiah 4:4; 6:6-7; Zeph. 1:12; Mal. 3:2-3; 1 Cor. 2:10; 3:13
- Spiritual power/Releasing Gifts (tongues of fire) - Acts 2:3; 2Tim. 1:6; 1Cor. 14:12
- Annihilation of Satan's Schemes - 2 Kings 6:17; Rev. 20:9
- Personal & Corporate Revival - Rev. 3:18

There is an amazing connection between the Spirit's fire and the glory of God. One of the places we see this is at the dedication of Solomon's Temple.

- **2Chron. 7:1-3** When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. ² And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD'S house. ³ When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever."

It seems like the fire came down first and the glory followed in the above account. Pastor Tubin Mudang, a young rising leader with Revival Blessing International Ministries (RBIM) of Arunachal Pradesh, India, recently preached a powerfully anointed message using this Scripture on the fire and glory of God. He began by declaring by the Spirit that *the fire and the glory of the Lord is manifesting in the young generation following Him*.³² This was very prophetic because the Spirit had me focused for some time on the fire and the glory of God in preparation for writing this manual and a future 5-Fold Global strategic mission operation in this frontier state of Northeast India. Brother Tubin continued, "The glory is not something of the old. It is available today. These are the seasons of glory. Anybody who is ready, who says I want to enter, can enter into this glory realm. A new revival, a big move of the Holy Spirit is coming. And everybody who's ready, everybody who wants, who desires this will enter into this. Those who are faithful they will carry the glory until the day Jesus comes back. The Lord has already released the glory. This level of glory has already been released from the Spirit realm, only the Lord is waiting for some people to arise who will be conductors of His glory. The glory has already been released upon Arunachal Pradesh. The Lord said to me this glory has been released to transform Arunachal as a Christian state. Those who are ready will carry this glory. Do you want to carry this glory? If you have this faith, you can carry this glory. This is not for some chosen, some separated. No! The Lord said to me there are people who paid the price for this season. In this season you will be seeing harvest. You will be seeing

³² Tubin Mudang. *Revival Blessing International Ministries*. Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, India. Live video message, March 26, 2023.

many new men and women rising up, not because they have done something but because the season of glory is there. The realm is open. A brother might not read the entire Bible, but God will be using him. A sister might not be reading from Genesis to Revelation, but God will be using her. The Lord says it is not because of you but somebody has paid the price. Maybe there is an auntie who didn't read from Genesis to Revelation but when you step in, God is going to use you mightily. These are the seasons of glory. The same glory rested upon Solomon's temple. The Bible says Solomon prayed. He said thank you Jesus! And when he started to pray the Bible says the fire of God came down. Before the glory comes, the fire comes. You might not be feeling the glory of God, but the fire is there. First the fire will come and later the glory will come."³³ You can even see that these transcribed words of prophetic declaration carry a strong anointing of the Spirit's fire. It reminds me of the prophet Jeremiah who testified that *His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not* (Jer. 20:9). This is the fire anointing. The Lord is beginning to pour forth upon the new generation church this fire anointing. His word will be a burning fire in their hearts and on their lips. It will be a fire they cannot contain.

We cannot conclude this section of our study without going deeper into the concept of the manifestation of God's glory. Is it God's will for you to manifest His glory? To see His glory or even to speak of His glory? I believe you will capture, as I have, fresh revelation from the Scriptures on this. Let us first consult the prophet, Isaiah.

- Isa. 42:1-13 "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One *in whom My soul delights!* I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. ² He will not cry out, nor raise *His voice*, Nor cause His voice to be heard in the street. ³ A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth. ⁴ He will not fail nor be discouraged, Till He has established justice in the earth; And the coastlands shall wait for His law." ⁵ Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it: ⁶ "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles, ⁷ To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house. ⁸ *I am* the LORD, that *is* My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images. ⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them." *Praise to the Lord* ¹⁰ Sing to the LORD a new song, And His praise from the ends of the earth, You who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, You coastlands and you inhabitants of them! ¹¹ Let the wilderness and its cities lift up *their voice*, The villages *that* Kedar inhabits. Let the inhabitants of Sela sing, Let them shout from the top of the mountains. ¹² Let them give glory to the LORD, And declare His praise in the coastlands. ¹³ The LORD shall go forth like a mighty man; He shall stir up *His* zeal like a man of war. He shall cry out, yes, shout aloud; He shall prevail against His enemies.
- Isa. 48:10-11 Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. ¹¹ For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do *it*; For how should *My name* be profaned? And I will not give My glory to another.

The fuller context of the above verses gives us a clearer understanding of a very common phrase spoken by believers that *God does not give His glory to another*. Although that is true

³³ Tubin Mudang. March 26, 2023.

when someone boasts about themselves, this is not the context Isaiah is referring to. Isaiah is presenting Jesus, the Messiah, as the Servant of the Lord. The glory of the Lord refers to His presence and His invisible character, qualities, and attributes displayed in a visible and knowable way. Jesus, the Anointed One, manifests Himself as *a light to the Gentiles*. You are also called to manifest this same glorious light to the world. In fact, the glory of the Lord will be seen upon you. Others will come to the light of His glory upon you.

- Is. 60:1-3 Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. ² For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. ³ The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.
- Matt. 5:14-16 “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

We can conclude that it is God’s will for you to see His glory! You will speak of His glory when you see it. John testifies that *these things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him* (John 12:41). When Jesus entered the cloud of glory with Peter, James, and John, He spoke with Moses and Elijah who appeared in **glory** and **spoke of His** decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem (Luke 9:31). So, the Lord Jesus wants you to seek, see, and speak of His glory. This realm of glory is where the fire anointing and the voice of the Lord is heard.

- Deut. 5:24 And you said: “Surely the LORD our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God speaks with man; yet he *still* lives.
- John 7:18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.
- John 11:40-42 Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up *His* eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said *this*, that they may believe that You sent Me.”
- John 17:22-23 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.
- 1Th. 1:12 ...that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

It is also God’s will for others to see His glory shining from you. However, He only gives His glory to those who believe in Him and follow Him. This is the true meaning behind Isaiah’s prophetic words *I will not give My glory to another*. He does not give His glory to the ungodly but to His chosen people. How do I know this? Jesus, while praying, revealed that the glory God gave Him, He had given to them (John 17:22). And He applied this in prayer for those who believed in Him and also *for those who will believe in Me through their word*. (John 17:20). Therefore, Jesus desires you to enter the cloud of glory with Him. You will experience the Spirit’s fire first and then the glory of the Lord. The light of His glory will increase in and upon you. Jesus was all about manifesting the glory of the Father.

- **John 2:11** This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

Miracles manifest the glory of the Lord. The world needs to see more miracles through the servants of the Lord in this generation. The greater harvest is before us. The fire and the glory of the Lord is ready to be revealed through this generation of believers. It will be an anointing of spiritual fire.

We have covered much in this first section of the fire anointing. Review these bullet points to capture a good summary of what we have learned together.

1. Satan is afraid (terrified) of the fire of God!
2. The Spirit's fire manifests the glory of the Lord.
3. Tongues of fire draw the attention of the world.
4. Both the fire and the glory of the Lord produce light.
5. The light of God's glory overcomes darkness.
6. Fire and light attract people. Jesus is the Light of the world, and He's called you to be the light of the world. You must carry the fire and manifest His glory.
7. The world needs to see the glory of the Lord.
8. You have been assigned to manifest the glory of the Lord. It is a special assignment given to the people of God to bear light to the world.
9. The light of God's glory should be increasing in and upon you.
10. Miracles manifest the glory of the Lord.

The Refining Fire

Believers need to respect and revere the fire of God. We also need to welcome the Spirit's fire into our lives and ministries. Although many church leaders are talking about the revival fire of the Spirit today, there is little emphasis on the refining nature of the fire anointing. The key challenge for new generation leaders is this: Do you believe the Lord is going to put the fire anointing upon your life and church? And if you believe this, what will the Holy Spirit's fire do? Obadiah prophesied about deliverance and holiness on Mount Zion when he said *Jacob shall be a fire and the house of Joseph a flame* (Obadiah 1:17-18). The Bible reveals that the first thing the fire does is it consumes what does not belong. For example, Isaiah could not move forward when God called him because he was *a man of unclean lips*.

- **Is. 6:1-8** In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory!" ⁴ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ So I said: "Woe *is* me, for I am undone! Because I *am* a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts." ⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth *with it*, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged." ⁸ Also I heard

the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here *am* !! Send me.”

Note the seraphim in the above account. Who were these angels? Interestingly, they are literally angels of holy fire.

- שָׂרָף **saraph**, *saw-rawf*; from 8313; burning, i.e. (figuratively) poisonous (serpent); specifically, a saraph or symbolical creature (from their copper color):—fiery (serpent), seraph.³⁴
- שָׂרָף **saraph**, *saw-raf*; a primitive root; to be (causatively, set) on fire:—(cause to, make a) burn((-ing), up) kindle, x utterly.³⁵

These angels carry the fire of God. They are anointed with holy fire from the heavenly temple. Look again at what they speak to one another: ***“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!”*** The fire and the glory that we discussed in the previous section are present. The heavenly altar is burning. But wait! One of the angels who burned with the fire of God and heard the voice that filled the temple with the smoke of His glory carries that fire from one burning coal to touch Isaiah’s mouth and lips. The defilement and pollution on his human lips and coming out of his mouth were taken away. The sin was cancelled by the holy fire. Isaiah did not resist the fire of God. It anointed him. It purged him. It cancelled the assignment of the devil against him. Satan could no longer use his mouth. His mouth would now cry out the words of the seraphim: ***“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!”*** Isaiah could now clearly hear the voice of the Lord. He could see his calling without confusion, without doubt, and without hesitation. He no longer questioned things. Immediately, Isaiah responded, ***“Here am !! Send me.”*** He could not have come to that place without experiencing the holy fire. The purging and refining fire of God came to him. I believe the same holy fire is coming upon the new generation church. I exhort you to meet the refining fire of God just as Moses turned aside to behold the flaming fire from the bush.

- Ex. 3:1-4 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, “I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.” ⁴ So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.”

Too many young leaders today are struggling with priestly duties. They are busying themselves tending the flock of God without passion or zeal. They need the fire of God in their lives and ministries. The Lord is desiring to come to you in a flame of fire. The Lord is waiting to see you turn aside toward the fire. It was then that God called Moses and Moses responded, ***“Here I am.”*** This new generation of leaders and believers should look to the fire of God.

³⁴ Strong. 8314.

³⁵ Ibid. 8313.

There is a new remnant kingdom mission force in the world today. The Lord is anointing them with holy fire. It is a refining fire. God says He will refine them!

- Jer. 9:7 Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: “Behold, I will refine them and try them; For how shall I deal with the daughter of My people?”

This is how God deals with His people. He refines them. He purifies them. He tries them in the fire of the Spirit. Those called by God understand this. The refining fire involves a process. It is not just reserved for the end of the age.

- Dan. 11:35 And *some* of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify *them*, and make *them* white, *until* the time of the end; because *it is* still for the appointed time.
- Dan. 12:10 Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

These prophetic words of Daniel reveal that this refining to purify the saints begins and continues *until the time of the end*. In fact, it has already begun with the new generation church. Therefore, it is important to be in the refining fire of the Holy Spirit now. David understood this when he said *For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined* (Psa. 66:10). The prophet Zechariah reveals that a third will go through the fire.

- Zech. 13:9 I will bring the *one-third* through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, “This *is* My people”; And each one will say, ‘The LORD *is* my God.’ ”

The Hebrew word for refine in the passages we are looking at confirms that the fire He sends upon us is designed to purge and try us. It consumes and removes unclean things from our lives so we can be pure vessels for His anointing.

צָרַף *tsaraph*, *tsaw-raf*; a primitive root; to fuse (metal), i.e. refine (literally or figuratively):—cast, (re-)fine(-er), founder, goldsmith, melt, pure, purge away, try.³⁶

The Lord has not stopped sending the holy fire upon us. He pulls everyone who is willing into the Spirit’s fire. He leads you through the refining fire and anoints you with the fire of His Spirit. How will God test or try you? Isaiah says *I have tested you in the furnace of affliction* (Is. 48:10). The troubles, hardships, and persecutions facing Christians around the world today will only increase. Although God will answer with fire against His enemies and deliver us from all trouble, there is an even greater purpose in these afflictions. They are a part of the refining process to develop Christlike character. How does the Lord build godly character in those whom He calls? I agree with Dr. Rodney Howard-Browne that *character is birthed in the Fire*.³⁷ Paul told Timothy something that every young leader should take to heart:

³⁶ Strong. 6884.

³⁷ Dr. Rodney Howard-Browne, *The Anointing* (p. 63). Kindle Edition.

- **1Tim. 4:12** Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

This cannot happen unless you are in the refining fire of the Spirit. Simon Peter recognized this and encouraged the church to rejoice in their trials.

- **1Pet. 1:6-9** In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

Trials test the genuineness of your faith according to the word of God. And when the Lord brings you through the refining fire you emerge much stronger in Him and with more anointing. You are filled with the zeal of the Lord. You have a fresh revelation of Jesus Christ that causes an inexpressible joy and praise within you. You encounter a realm of His glory that is full. You're shining bright for Jesus. You go forth with a clear vision and a greater anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. The fire anointing is upon your life and ministry. This is why you must be careful of the foundation you are building upon.

- **1Cor 3:12-15** Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³ each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

The Holy Spirit is grieved when young leaders build upon common religious patterns of ministry that will not endure the test of fire. They see popular talented ministers with huge ministries and offerings, thousands of followers, much land, and large spacious church buildings. The young leaders set their sights on them hoping for the same success. It is interesting to see how quickly the land can be seized and the physical buildings burned in a wave of persecution. Although all things should be used for the glory of Christ and the advance of His kingdom, young leaders need to remember that the church is people, and not buildings. Jesus is coming for His people. A purging is coming upon the church because He is like a refiner's fire.

- **Mal. 3:2-3** "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He *is* like a refiner's fire And like launderers' soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.

A day of purification is coming upon the church. Jesus, the Refiner, acts to remove something unwanted, harmful, or evil in His church by cleansing and ridding it from the body of Christ. He purges young leaders (the Levites) just like gold and silver. Jesus Christ, the Anointed

One, is the Refiner of His people. This is who Jesus is. Ezekiel, Daniel, and the Apostle John declared that Jesus appeared with the holy fire.

- Ezek. 1:26-28 And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it. ²⁷ Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around. ²⁸ Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.
- Dan. 10:4-6 Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris, ⁵ I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! ⁶ His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.
- Rev. 1:12-18 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the seven lampstands *One* like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. ¹⁴ His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; ¹⁵ His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; ¹⁶ He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. ¹⁷ And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I *am* He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.
- Rev. 19:11-16 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

The new generation church must grasp this apostolic and prophetic revelation of who Jesus is. The appearance of fire is upon Him. He is anointed with holy fire. And He desires His church to be anointed with the same fire. The Bible says, *the hand of the LORD shall be known to His servants, And His indignation to His enemies* (Is. 66:14). How will this be known?

- Is. 66:15-18 For behold, the LORD will come with fire And with His chariots, like a whirlwind, To render His anger with fury, And His rebuke with flames of fire. ¹⁶ For by fire and by His sword The LORD will judge all flesh; And the slain of the LORD shall be many. ¹⁷ "Those who sanctify themselves and purify themselves, To go to the gardens After an *idol* in the midst, Eating swine's flesh and the abomination and the mouse, Shall be consumed together," says the LORD. ¹⁸ "For I know their works and their thoughts. It shall be that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see My glory.

The Lord comes with fire that consumes the enemy, but there is also a rebuke or chiding that will come *with flames of fire*. The anointing of fire will always contend with the enemy and also with the flesh because the Spirit is enmity with the flesh. This is why the fire anointing is needed now to purify your life and ministry. It is the counsel of the Lord to all who sincerely follow Him.

- Rev. 3:18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

Tongues of Fire

There was fire in the house when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the 120 believers in the Upper Room. John the Baptist prophesied that Christ would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

- Matt. 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- Luke 3:16 John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Do you think for even a moment that the devil wants you to receive the Holy Spirit in this way? Perhaps your pastor or church does not want you to be baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire, but Jesus does. In fact, He desires tongues of fire to sit and continue upon you. His will is for you to speak with these tongues of fire.

- Acts 2:1-4 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

There are ministers and churches today who make no room in their lives and ministries for the Spirit baptism in the way described in the Pentecost account. But it's impossible for God to lie and the Scriptures cannot be broken. The Holy Spirit came with fire at Pentecost and He comes with the same fire today. It is unwise for the church in any generation to deny the fire and the power associated with the Pentecost experience. It is wise to make room in your life and ministry for the baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. The biblical account says *there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them* (Acts 1:3). Where were these tongues of fire coming from? Although this may seem to be an elementary question, we need to be reminded again and again that the tongues of fire come from the altar of God.

There is a Psalm of David that is traditionally recited in synagogues on the Day of Pentecost. Look carefully over this Psalm. Can you find anything that refers to what happened in Acts 2:1-4.

- Psa. 29:1-11 A Psalm of David. Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD glory and strength. ² Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. ³ The voice of the LORD *is* over the waters; The God of glory thunders; The LORD *is* over many waters. ⁴ The voice of the LORD *is* powerful; The voice of the LORD *is* full of majesty. ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars, Yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon. ⁶ He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. ⁷ The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire. ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; The LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh. ⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth, And strips the forests bare; And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!" ¹⁰ The LORD sat *enthroned* at the Flood, And the LORD sits as King forever. ¹¹ The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace.

If you were drawn to verse 7, then you have a keen eye to what the Spirit reveals about the tongues of fire. What does it mean that ***the voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire***. The literal translation from the Hebrew text would read, *the voice (sound, noise) of Jehovah (the existing one) hews out (hews, digs, cleaves, cuts out, divides, quarries) the flames (flame, point, tip of weapon, head of spear) of fire*. Like a stone mason God is making room for something in each seeking believer. Like the dentist who drills out a tooth first to place a filling that will last a lifetime, the Lord hews out like a skilled mason the place for the Holy Spirit with tongues of fire to operate in the heart and life of the believer. Now when I apply this truth to the baptism in the Spirit, I clearly see that God Himself has made a place for speaking in tongues in Spirit baptism. The Greek word refers to the distribution of tongues by the Holy Spirit upon each believer. The Holy Spirit was the disperser and God dug out a place in each believer for the convincing evidence of tongues. Although the use of tongues in public worship has a clear distinction and guidelines, Scripture gives a clear message to the church regarding speaking in tongues: ***Do not forbid!*** This means don't hinder, don't prevent, don't deny, and don't refuse or withhold the tongues of fire from anyone.³⁸ It cannot be any clearer than this:

- 1Cor. 14:39 NIV Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.

Many leaders and churches are guilty of hindering and some even do all they can to prevent the flow of tongues when believers pray and worship together. Why is this unwise? First it is not aligned with the word of God. Secondly, it denies believers an opportunity to enter a realm of the Spirit where they clearly hear the voice of God speak from the midst of the fire. The flesh becomes silent when believers flow in the new tongues. The Holy Spirit speaks and what He speaks stands out above all else. Confusion is gone. Unclean thoughts are taken away. Sins are purged. Sickness, disease, oppression, and demon spirits are demolished. Generational curses are broken. Satanic assignments are cancelled. Clouds of darkness are pushed back. Heaven is opened. The anointing of fire spreads and rests upon the people of God. They enter the cloud of God's glory and presence. They receive correction, instruction, and fresh revelation from heaven. The full counsel of God is at work in their lives and

³⁸ Strong. 2967. κωλύω *koluo*, *ko-loo'-o*; from the base of 2849; to estop, i.e. prevent (by word or act): – forbid, hinder, keep from, let, not suffer, withstand.

ministries. This is what happens when there is fire in the house of the Lord. But how does this happen through the tongues of fire?

Praying and worshipping in the new tongues has a remarkable value for believers and for the church of the living God. This is why our 5-Fold Global teams minister the baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire in every place. We see this priority with Jesus and in the Early Church. We know if those God sends us to, pray and worship in tongues with rivers of living water flowing like liquid fire from within, then there will be a change in the environment. Revival fire will be kindled and spread far and wide. Therefore, it is important to see from the Scriptures the personal and corporate value of praying and worshipping with tongues of fire.

Scripture	Personal Value	Corporate Value
Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."	Power and strength to work miracles as witnesses for Christ.	People come seeking healing and deliverance in their lives.
Acts 11:45-46 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.	Confidence from God that you have received the promised outpouring of the Holy Spirit and fire.	People will magnify the Lord and desire what they see others have received.
1Cor. 14:2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.	Direct communication with God. Secret things are revealed by the Spirit.	People receive blessings from the Lord with words of wisdom and knowledge.
1Cor. 14:4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.	Courage and boldness under divine construction of your life and ministry.	The church is strengthened and built up by the Spirit.
1Cor. 14:17 For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified.	Greater expression of gratitude and thankfulness to God.	Praise and worship glorify the Lord. He is elevated to center state.
Jude 20-21 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.	Faith increases to a new level. It rises up and comes alive. It is ready to stand in Christ and handle any problem.	God's people engage in spiritual warfare, healing the sick, and casting out demons. They understand and declare they are unstoppable in Christ.
Rom. 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.	Cooperation and alignment with the Holy Spirit in the perfect will of God. The Intercession is in, by, and through the Spirit. The Spirit Himself searches and reveals the mind and will of God.	Corporate intercession rises to a strategic level by the Spirit. Strongholds are broken. God's will is revealed to the body of Christ.
Isa. 28:11-12 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, ¹² To whom He said, "This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest," And, "This is the refreshing"; Yet they would not hear. (1Cor. 14:21)	Calmness, confusing voices are silenced. There is a lifting of weariness.	God speaks to His people. There is a settling into His presence where God's people lay down everything at His feet. The storms of life are calmed.
James 3:8 But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.	Tongue is brought into subjection to God. Blessing proceeds by to Spirit to God and men like fresh water.	The church receives blessing from what comes forth from the Spirit.

<p>Eph. 4:17-20 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— ¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.</p>	<p>A warrior spirit arises. The shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit are activated at an overcoming level.</p>	<p>Leaders receive boldness to speak what the Spirit has given to them. The Word is like fire in their bellies and cannot be held back.</p>
<p>Eph. 5:18-21 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God.</p>	<p>An awareness that you are in the presence of the Lord. It is a truly spiritual environment. You worship in spirit and in truth. Your worship grows.</p>	<p>The presence of the Lord fills the house. People feel the presence. The singing becomes like one symphony.</p>
<p>Col. 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.</p>	<p>The word of God is awakened in your heart. You are aware that the Lord is dealing with you. The Spirit puts something into you of an instructional nature.</p>	<p>The word of God with wisdom is ministered to one another. The Word goes forth in spiritual songs that teach and admonish the people of God. His grace is extended to one another.</p>

The above Scriptures provide at least twelve reasons why the devil is terrified when Christians pray in tongues both at the personal and corporate level. Although we will say more about this later, young leaders should encourage believers to flow in the tongues of fire. Don't move forward until they do. The value and success of your life and ministry will be most effective if you minister the Holy Spirit to people in the same way as the Apostles and the Early Church.

The Fiery Torch

Pastor Timothy Rajan of India was in attendance on May 13, 2022, when I gave a report to a group of intercessors at Akron Shalom Ministries and Global Outpouring. The 5-Fold Global Uganda/South Sudan Mission took place earlier in March. The mission report had been delayed because Evangelist Dr. Joram Dol and I contracted severe cerebral malaria shortly after our return. Our Brother Joram went to glory on April 11, 2022, four days after I was released from the hospital. It was a very difficult time for all of us. However, on the day I presented my report, I asked Brother Timothy to pray for my kidneys as I was facing some follow up appointments. I felt heat like fire as he laid hands on me. I knew healing was flowing through my kidneys. Later it would be confirmed that I was healed of stage 3 kidney damage from malaria. Timothy also shared a vision. He saw a flaming torch of fire in my hands as I was going forth. Although the Spirit within me bore witness that I was to carry the fire to the new generation of leaders and believers, I later discovered the Scriptures have much to say about these flaming torches of fire.

The first example in the Bible of a torch is when the Lord appeared to Abram in a vision leading up to a burning torch from the altar of God. Follow along with me as we review the

account. The Lord identified Himself as *I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward* (Gen. 15:1). Abram responded, *Lord God, what will you give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?*³ Then Abram said, *Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!*" (Gen. 1:2-3). Follow closely because the word of the Lord comes to Abram.

- Gen. 15:4-8 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir."⁵ Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."⁶ And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.⁷ Then He said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it."⁸ And he said, "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?"

The Apostle Paul speaks much about the faith of Abraham regarding this account saying, *He did not waver at the promise through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God* (Rom. 4:20). Abraham was fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform (Rom. 4:21). You need this same unwavering faith when it comes to the vision God has given you. Notice that Abraham asked the Lord *how shall I know*. This is how the Lord responded:

- Gen. 15:9-21 So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon."¹⁰ Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.¹¹ And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.¹² Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him.¹³ Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years.¹⁴ And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.¹⁵ Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age.¹⁶ But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."¹⁷ And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces.¹⁸ On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates—¹⁹ the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites,²⁰ the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim,²¹ the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

How did Abraham know the promise would be fulfilled? How was he strengthened in faith? It was through the sacrifice that God showed him. It was not when he was driving vultures off of the sacrifice. It was not when a great darkness fell upon him during his sleep. It was when the *smoking oven and a burning torch* of fire came upon the sacrifice. There was an anointing in the fiery torch. You need the fire anointing to come upon the sacrifice of your life and ministry. You may be driving vultures away from your life and ministry right now. It may seem like you are making little to no progress. But be strengthened in faith. There's a torch of fire coming upon your sacrifice with great anointing. God's covenant with you is being renewed. You will know it when the burning torch reaches you.

Modern day prophets have warned us that demonic activity will increase. Many antichrists are in the world today. They are ramping up their attempts to eliminate Christianity from the face of the earth. It is a call for warfare in the spiritual realm. The church needs the anointing with the fire of the Spirit to prevail. The same Spirit that rested upon Gideon and his army of three hundred who prevailed against the Midianites with torches of fire is needed today. The account of Gideon consists of three chapters in the book of Judges. Although it is beyond the scope of the topic of our study to consider all aspects of the account, I encourage you to read and become familiar with it. God's people had forsaken Him and found themselves in bondage and poverty under the rule of Midian. This continued for seven years until the people cried out to the Lord (Judg.6:1-6). The context surrounding the calling of Gideon provides a preview for the appearance of the Lord, the Anointed One.

- God's people suffer under Midian for seven years because they **did evil in the sight of the Lord** (Judg. 6:1-6).
- God's people **cried out to the Lord because of the Midianites** (Judg. 6:6-7).
- God **sent a prophet to the children of Israel** to remind them saying, **you have not obeyed My voice** (Judg. 6:8-10).

This reveals that you cannot progress in the anointing until you sincerely acknowledge your sin before the Lord. One of the things God is saying to the church today is to recognize the things I have against you and repent. The church has failed to shine brightly for Christ in many places simply because they ignore what the Spirit is saying to the churches (See Rev. 2-3). It is in this environment that the Lord first appeared to Gideon.

- **Judg. 6:11 Now the Angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites.**

Look what the Lord said and did as well as what Gideon said and did:

The Lord said and did	Gideon said and did
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where <i>are</i> all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan <i>is</i> the weakest in Manasseh, and I <i>am</i> the least in my father's house."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who talk with me."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I will wait until you come back." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not depart from here, I pray, until I come to You and bring out my offering and set <i>it</i> before You."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Take the meat and the unleavened bread and lay <i>them</i> on this rock, and pour out the broth." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Alas, O Lord GOD! For I have seen the Angel of the LORD face to face."

<p>And he did so. Then the Angel of the LORD put out the end of the staff that was in His hand, and touched the meat and the unleavened bread; and fire rose out of the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened bread. And the Angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Peace <i>be</i> with you; do not fear, you shall not die.” 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Take your father’s young bull, the second bull of seven years old, and tear down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the wooden image that <i>is</i> beside it; ²⁶ and build an altar to the LORD your God on top of this rock in the proper arrangement, and take the second bull and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the image which you shall cut down.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So Gideon took ten men from among his servants and did as the LORD had said to him. But because he feared his father’s household and the men of the city too much to do <i>it</i> by day, he did <i>it</i> by night.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • And it was so. When he rose early the next morning and squeezed the fleece together, he wrung the dew out of the fleece, a bowlful of water. • And God did so that night. It was dry on the fleece only, but there was dew on all the ground. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “If You will save Israel by my hand as You have said— ³⁷ look, I shall put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor; if there is dew on the fleece only, and <i>it is</i> dry on all the ground, then I shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said.” • “Do not be angry with me, but let me speak just once more: Let me test, I pray, just once more with the fleece; let it now be dry only on the fleece, but on all the ground let there be dew.”

The above is not a great witness of faith on Gideon’s part, but it is a testimony that the Lord does not stop working with us. Of course, as all this was going on, the Midianites, the Amalekites, and the people of the East all gathered together against Israel at the valley of Jezreel.

- Judg. 6:33-35 Then all the Midianites and Amalekites, the people of the East, gathered together; and they crossed over and encamped in the Valley of Jezreel. ³⁴ But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him. ³⁵ And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh, who also gathered behind him. He also sent messengers to Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.

Despite all of Gideon’s questions and sign seeking, he had obeyed the Lord who instructed him to tear down his father’s altar to Baal and to prepare a sacrifice. As we have discussed before in our study, the fire anointing is connected to a sacrifice that is pleasing to the Lord. The Lord touched Gideon’s sacrifice with His staff and *fire rose out of the rock* (Judg. 6:21). The Lord further instructed Gideon to build an altar to Him *on top of this rock in the proper arrangement* (Judg. 6:26). Interestingly this altar on top of the rock where the fire rose was a preparation for battle. The Hebrew word is referring specifically to setting things in order for a

military battle.³⁹ Spiritually speaking, the fire anointing often comes with a fighting spirit against the forces of evil. It was when the fire came that Gideon perceived it was the Lord and that he had *seen the Angel of the LORD face to face* (Judg. 6:22). Gideon was not ready to tear down his father's false altar until he experienced the fire from the rock. Some of you may need to tear down your father's religious altar to experience the fire of the Spirit. Without the fire of God upon his life, Gideon could not transition from doubt and weakness to a *mighty man of valor*. But the Bible says *the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon* (Judg. 6:34). Although he asked for another sign with the fleece, Gideon was arising with an anointing of fire. The Lord was working with him. He was being prepared to prevail over the enemy.

The people of God today need to be valiant in Christ. They must possess and show more courage and determination. Instead, many seem to be fearful of the false gods of the nations and the many antichrists arising in every place. The Lord wants to change this in the new generation church. He is sending a fresh anointing of fire upon them. Review what we learn from Gideon's valiant army of three hundred. Remember, the Lord had reduced the army from 32,000 to 300 over His concern that they would boast and say *that her own strength has saved her* (Judg. 7:2). Young leaders, take heed of the words Jonathan said to his armor bearer, *For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few* (1Sam. 14:6). How did the three hundred under the leadership of Gideon overcome the oppression of the Midianites? Here is how it all happened:

- Judg. 7:13-23 And when Gideon had come, there was a man telling a dream to his companion. He said, "I have had a dream: *To my surprise, a loaf of barley bread tumbled into the camp of Midian; it came to a tent and struck it so that it fell and overturned, and the tent collapsed.*"¹⁴ Then his companion answered and said, "This *is* nothing else but the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel! Into his hand God has delivered Midian and the whole camp."¹⁵ And so it was, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream and its interpretation, that he worshiped. He returned to the camp of Israel, and said, "Arise, for the LORD has delivered the camp of Midian into your hand."¹⁶ Then he divided the three hundred men *into* three companies, and he put a trumpet into every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and torches inside the pitchers.¹⁷ And he said to them, "Look at me and do likewise; watch, and when I come to the edge of the camp you shall do as I do:¹⁸ When I blow the trumpet, I and all who *are* with me, then you also blow the trumpets on every side of the whole camp, and say, "*The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!*" "¹⁹ So Gideon and the hundred men who *were* with him came to the outpost of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just as they had posted the watch; and they blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers that were in their hands.²⁰ Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers—they held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing—and they cried, "The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!"²¹ And every man stood in his place all around the camp; and the whole army ran and cried out and fled.²² When the three hundred blew the trumpets, the LORD set every man's sword against his companion throughout the whole camp; and the army fled to Beth Acacia, toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel Meholah, by Tabbath.²³ And the men of Israel gathered together from Naphtali, Asher, and all Manasseh, and pursued the Midianites.

³⁹ Strong. 4634. מַעְרָכָה *ma'arakah*, *mah-ar-aw-kaw'*; feminine of 4633; an arrangement; concretely, a pile; specifically a military array:—army, fight, be set in order, ordered place, rank, row. 4633. מַעְרָךְ *ma'arak*, *mah-ar-awk'*; from 6186; an arrangement, i.e. (figuratively) mental disposition:—preparation.

God assured Gideon of victory just as He assures the church of victory today. However, there is something very significant in these battle instructions. Dividing into three companies, surrounding the enemy camp, and blowing the trumpets was common in battles, but the torches of fire in the pitchers and the simultaneous breaking of the pitchers is unique. Three hundred pictures with 300 fiery torches surrounding an enemy camp. What could this mean for the church today? Arise with the torch of fire in your hand. Each held the burning torch in their hand. They had to carry the fire to the enemy's camp. Carry the fire of the Spirit forth today. The Spirit's fire needs to be released just as each one broke the vessel carrying the fiery torch. Satan is terrified of the fire upon your life and ministry. Demons tremble at the thought of you carrying a torch of fire and releasing it upon sickness, disease, and oppression. Some may say this application is a bit much, but when we look more closely at the visions Ezekiel and Daniel had of the Lord's appearance, we see torches of fire in the realm of the Spirit.

- Ezek. 1:13 As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning.
- Dan. 10:6 His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

In addition, the Apostle John received a remarkable revelation about the fullness of the Holy Spirit. The Risen and Ascended Christ, the Anointed One, showed him that the complete and full nature of the Holy Spirit included *seven torches of fire*.

- Rev. 4:5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God...

Fire is more than a symbol of the Holy Spirit in this verse; it is who He is. The Holy Spirit is a burning torch or lamp of fire!⁴⁰ It is not unreasonable, therefore, to see a fiery torch of the Spirit in our hands today. The Lord is putting fiery torches of the Spirit in the hands of the new generation church. The fire and glory of God will spread throughout the land.

⁴⁰ Strong. 2985. λαμπός lampas, lam-pas'; from 2989; a "lamp" or flambeau: – lamp, light, torch. 2989. λάμπω lampo, lam'-po; a primary verb; to beam, i.e. radiate brilliancy (literally or figuratively): – give light, shine. 2545. καίω kaio, kah'-yo; apparently a primary verb; to set on fire, i.e. kindle or (by implication) consume: – burn, light.

CHAPTER 5: THE BREAKER ANOINTING

The Lord of the Breakthrough

Many nations and governments today appear to be in a state of rage against Christianity and the Scriptures. Territorial spirits are holding multitudes in bondage as persecution rises to an end time level in many places. But there is an anointing that breaks every yoke of bondage. The prophet Isaiah spoke of two aspects or levels of this anointing.

- Is. 10:27 It shall come to pass in that day *That his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, And his yoke from your neck, And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.*
- Is. 58:6 *“Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke?”*

The first is in the context of breaking and destroying the yoke of bondage at the governmental level in cities and nations. God often uses nations against His people for His purpose of redemption. Then, when His people cry out to Him, he breaks the burdensome yoke and punishes the oppressing nation. This aspect of the breaker anointing is seen in the call and ministry of Jeremiah.

- Jer. 1:9-10 Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant.”

Although there are many biblical examples of this level of the breaker anointing beginning with Moses, there is coming a resurgence of this anointing in the end times. Benny Hinn refers to it as the dominion or Elijah anointing because it affects cities, regions, and nations.

“The dominion anointing of Isaiah 10:27 is a very rare and powerful anointing. This world-changing anointing specifically affects nations; it has the power to build kingdoms or destroy them. Very few have this anointing, which I also call the Elijah anointing.”⁴¹

The second aspect we learn from the prophet Isaiah is the breaking of yokes off of individual people. It is God’s will *that you break every yoke*. This refers to the fettered yoke of wickedness, heavy burdens, and oppression that hold people captive. This aspect of the breaker anointing is rapidly increasing and spreading today like a fresh and powerful wave to set captives free. The new generation church needs to be reminded that *the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly* (Rom. 16:20).⁴²

The breaker or dominion anointing is almost always in the context of spiritual warfare. For example, David experienced this anointing on the field of battle against the Philistines. It was where he saw the Lord break through the enemy *like a breakthrough of water*.

⁴¹ Benny Hinn. *Mysteries of the Anointing* (p. 10).

⁴² Strong. **5034**. τάχος *tachos*, *takh'-os*; from the same as 5036; a brief space (of time), i.e. (with 1722 prefixed) in haste: – + quickly, + shortly, + speedily. **5036**. ταχύς *tachus*, *takh-oos* ; of uncertain affinity; fleet, i.e. (figuratively) prompt or ready: – swift.

- 2Sam. 5:20 So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there; and he said, “The LORD has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water.” Therefore he called the name of that place Baal Perazim.

The breaker anointing was like a flood breaking down the wall of resistance coming from the enemies of God. David named the place *Baal Perazim* or literally *the Lord of breakings through*.

- בעל פְּרָצִים Ba'al P'ratsiyim, *bah'-al per-aw-tseem*; from 1167 and the plural of 6556; possessor of breaches; Baal-Peratsim, a place in Palestine:—Baal-perazim.⁴³
- פְּרָץ perets, *peh'-rets*; from 6555; a break (literally or figuratively):—breach, breaking forth (in), x forth, gap.⁴⁴

It's remarkable that the Hebrew word for breakthrough is in the plural form and this reveals there will be multiple breakthroughs. The Lord of the breakthrough is unlimited in His overcoming power to breakthrough every yoke of bondage, every territorial spirit, and every stronghold of the enemy. The Lord of the breakthrough was also with David in a second battle with the Philistines.

- 2Sam. 5:22-25 Then the Philistines went up once again and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. ²³ Therefore David inquired of the LORD, and He said, “You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees. ²⁴ And it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you shall advance quickly. For then the LORD will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines.” ²⁵ And David did so, as the LORD commanded him; and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

David only advanced quickly when he heard *the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees*. What was this sound? Yes, it was the sound of a heavenly angelic army, but it was also the sound of breakthrough. There is the sound of breakthrough coming upon the new generation church. Breakthroughs are coming with revival fire. The warrior spirit is arising in many young leaders. Rivers of living water like liquid and golden fire will break down resistance to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in every place. This young generation is about to experience the Lord of the breakthrough.

Why is the breaker anointing needed today? And how do you define breakthrough? Here is a brief list of what a breakthrough means taken from the Merriam Webster Dictionary:⁴⁵

- A sudden advance especially in knowledge or technique.
- A person's first notable success.
- An act or instance of moving through or beyond an obstacle.
- An instance of passing through a barrier or protection.

⁴³ Strong. 1188.

⁴⁴ Ibid. 6556

⁴⁵ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/breakthrough>.

These synonymous features help us to understand the dynamic nature of the breakthroughs we experience in Christ. You can easily see the importance for this level of anointing because of all the territorial spirits, evil strongholds, rulers of darkness, and hosts of wickedness we are facing around the world. Breakthroughs are needed in every place because even the land has been defiled. People are waiting to be set free! The Bible says that the land needs to be healed. But why does it need to be healed? People gaze upon the land with awe and declare its intrinsic value and goodness. But they fail to view things from God's perspective. They are unaware, blinded to how sin affects the land on which they reside. However, the Lord sees what man has done to pollute the land; the very land He created for the good of mankind. Here lies a sound biblical principle: *Your spiritual condition affects the land you walk on*. The effect can be good, or it can be bad. For example, you need the breaker anointing when the land is defiled by the ruthless shedding of innocent blood through abortion. Around 73 million induced abortions take place worldwide each year. Six out of 10 (61%) of all unintended pregnancies, and 3 out of 10 (29%) of all pregnancies, end in induced abortion according to the World Health Organization.⁴⁶ What does the bible say about this?

- **Numbers 35:33-34** So you shall not pollute the land where you are; for blood defiles the land, and no atonement can be made for the land, for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it. ³⁴ Therefore do not defile the land which you inhabit, in the midst of which I dwell; for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.' "
- **Psa. 106:37-38** They even sacrificed their sons And their daughters to demons, ³⁸ And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with blood.

You need the breaker anointing to preach against the lawlessness violating God's covenant and the changing of ordinances established by God from the beginning of time. For example, the US Supreme Court changed the definition of marriage between a man and a woman to same sex couples in June 2015. Jesus said *because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold* (Matt. 24:12).

- **Is. 24:5** The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, Because they have transgressed the laws, Changed the ordinance, Broken the everlasting covenant.

You need the breaker anointing when idolatry, abominations, and wickedness of every kind abound.

- **Jer. 16:18** For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes. ¹⁸ And first I will repay double for their iniquity and their sin, because they have defiled My land; they have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable idols."

You need the breaker anointing when nations forsake God and His people backslide.

⁴⁶ <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/abortion>.

- Jer. 3:8-10 Then I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel had committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but went and played the harlot also. ⁹ So it came to pass, through her casual harlotry, that she defiled the land and committed adultery with stones and trees. ¹⁰ And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah has not turned to Me with her whole heart, but in pretense,” says the LORD.

You need the breaker anointing when unclean spirits manifest in all aspects of society.

- Ezek. 36:17 “Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own ways and deeds; to Me their way was like the uncleanness of a woman in her customary impurity.

The above categories of things that defile people and the land are broad in scope and are characterized in the Bible as iniquity, sin, wickedness, abomination, and the like. This anointing is needed to breakthrough these.

Breakthroughs are needed today in every place. I want to conclude this section on the breaker anointing with two side by side segments from God’s word. One is from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. Both are applicable to the time in which we live. Both present a remarkable clarity of God’s perspective and the church’s need for this anointing to breakthrough, *loose the bonds of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke.*

2 Chronicles 7:12-22	Romans 1:18-32
<p>Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: “I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. ¹³ When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, ¹⁴ if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. ¹⁵ Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer <i>made</i> in this place. ¹⁶ For now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually. ¹⁷ As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, ¹⁸ then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, “You shall not fail to <i>have</i> a man as ruler in Israel.” ¹⁹ “But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them,</p>	<p>For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown <i>it</i> to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible <i>attributes</i> are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, <i>even</i> His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify <i>Him</i> as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. ²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the</p>

²⁰ if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them ²¹ “And as for this house, which is exalted, everyone who passes by it will be astonished and say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land and this house?’ ²² Then they will answer, “Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods, and worshiped them and served them; therefore He has brought all this calamity on them.’ ”

natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. ²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers, ³⁰ backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹ undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; ³² who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Note the three *if* and *then* statements in the above Old Testament account. They are based upon the spiritual condition of the land and the people of God.

If You Will	Then I Will
...if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways	...then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.
...if you walk before Me as your father David walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments	...then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, “You shall not fail <i>to have</i> a man as ruler in Israel.
...if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them	...then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.

The above chart fully and clearly provides God’s perspective and how the spiritual condition of people affects His creation and the environments we live in. In addition, the passage from the book of Romans reflects the same perspective with much more detail. It is significant in the time in which we live to see that Scripture even addresses the issues of gender identity and same sex passions that are against nature and an abomination unto God. The entire LGBTQ+ movement is shameful and wicked according to God’s word. Even now evil plans are in place for a new Bible written by artificial intelligence (A.I.) that will make such practices

acceptable to the world. Look at these excerpts from a recent report about statements made by a World Economic Forum Contributor:

"Yuval Noah Harari, known for being a contributor and speaker at the World Economic Forum, is promoting the idea that A.I. will be able to generate a new globally acceptable religious book. Harari's prediction is raising alarms for conservatives and Christians since the Bible is considered sacred as God's holy word to mankind. Harari explained A.I.'s purpose in writing a new Bible during a recent forum called "A.I. & The Future of Humanity." "It's the first technology ever that can create new ideas. You know, the printing press, radio, television, they broadcast, they spread the ideas created by the human brain, by the human mind," he said. Harari said A.I. will soon be able to invent new concepts and beliefs that are more socially acceptable than the Bible. "A.I. can create new ideas; {it} can even write a new Bible," he said, in order to establish unified and "correct" religions. "Throughout history, religions dreamt about having a book written by a superhuman intelligence, by a non-human entity," Harari explained. Now he believes A.I. will become a new type of god. "In a few years, there might be religions that are actually correct ... just think about a religion whose holy book is written by an A.I.," Harari said. "That could be a reality in a few years."⁴⁷

The above represents only one of a number of examples that should cause alarm in the church today. In fact, the Chinese government has a similar plan of rewriting the Bible. Their goal according to Talia Wise, a producer for CBN Newswatch is to get people to worship the government as God.

"They want the people to take their eyes off of a God and to put them on a good person and to [have Christians] deny their faith, as a result of that, and supplant that with the Communist party as the ultimate deity... They're really trying to brainwash children at an early age about what the Bible says and to confuse them to prevent them from being Christians, but I think we all know as Christians that the word of God is more than a book. It's a living...it's Jesus Christ himself. They can try as they may but I don't think it will be successful. Ultimately, I believe, the Truth will come out."⁴⁸

This is the world we live in. It is not a time to be downcast, fearful, or timid. Rather, it is the time and place to hear heaven's sound of breakthrough and for the church to advance quickly and boldly into the battlefields with the Lord of the breakthrough. Jesus Christ is the only way for those ensnared by this move away from God to be set free and avoid His judgment. We can expect the apostate church to adopt these new versions of the Bible. However, the new generation church must rise up with the breaker anointing to overcome the rapid spread of the vile passions and abominations polluting the land and society today.

The Emerging Remnant

A new remnant kingdom mission force is arising with great anointing in strategic places around the world. Bishop James Murunga of Kenya, one of our 5-Fold Global International Directors, refers to this force as *the emerging remnant*. His teachings on the emerging remnant display an apostolic and prophetic insight applicable to our study because this new emerging remnant comes with a fresh and new level of anointing for breakthrough. Therefore,

⁴⁷ Steve Warren. *World Economic Forum Contributor Says A.I. Could Rewrite the Bible, Create 'Correct' Religions* | CBN News, June 16, 2023.

⁴⁸ Talia Wise. *Worshipping Government as God: China Tries to Rewrite Bible, 'Brainwash Children'* | CBN News, July 27, 2023.

we will frequently quote Bishop James in this section. One of the first points he presents is that it is a remnant preserved of the Lord.

- Romans 11:1-5 I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying, ³ “Lord, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life”? ⁴ But what does the divine response say to him? “I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.” ⁵ Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

“In every dispensation, time and season, God has a faithful remnant that will stand faithful to His purpose, word, and assignment. At the beginning of the 2010-2020 decade, the Spirit of God spoke to us on the need to look out for the remnant wherever we went for Kingdom operations. He said *break away from usual church conference tradition and be keen to seek and connect with the remnant.*

- Is. 28:5 In that day the Lord of hosts will be For a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty To the remnant of His people, For a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment, And for strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.

In this prophetic day of the remnant God reveals Himself as the Lord of Hosts; the God of the angel armies. He declares that He will be four powerful things for the remnant:

1. A crown of glory: Symbolizes divine authority on the remnant of God’s people. The Holy Spirit is being poured out in glorious measure to enable the saints in the end time to operate in great anointing and power.
2. A diadem of beauty: The Lord will beautify the humble with salvation. He is going to beautify the end time church to be a true reflection of what He intended it to be; a city on a hill whose light cannot be hidden (Matt. 5:14) .
3. A spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment: The stories in scripture concerning Paul and Silas in prison, Peter rescued from prison by an angel, the woman caught in adultery and brought before Jesus are all illustrations of God’s justice system that will be active in the end times. God fights for His remnant to give them victory when human justice systems have condemned them.
4. A strength to him who turns the battle at the gate: Jesus said the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church that He would build. God is going to give supernatural ability and great discernment to His end time church to expose the schemes and plans of hell before they happen. The Lord will strengthen His remnant bride for the end time Kingdom advancement initiatives.

The prophet Micah speaks of a divine assembling of the remnant.

- Micah 4:6-8 “In that day,” says the LORD, “I will assemble the lame, I will gather the outcast And those whom I have afflicted; ⁷ I will make the lame a remnant, And the outcast a strong nation; So the LORD will

reign over them in Mount Zion From now on, even forever. ⁸ And you, O tower of the flock, The stronghold of the daughter of Zion, To you shall it come, Even the former dominion shall come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.”

Who is the Lord assembling? Who is He gathering? The prophet says the Lord will *assemble the lame, gather the outcast and the afflicted*. He is going to make them into something powerful in His hand. What is the Lord going to make them? He’s going to make them *a remnant and a strong nation*. Furthermore, the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion. He will be *the tower of the flock* and *the stronghold of the daughter of Zion*. His dominion and authority will be restored (note: this sounds like the breaker anointing). But there is also a divine placement of the remnant.

- Micah 5:7-8 Then the remnant of Jacob Shall be in the midst of many peoples, Like dew from the LORD, Like showers on the grass, That tarry for no man Nor wait for the sons of men. ⁸ And the remnant of Jacob Shall be among the Gentiles, In the midst of many peoples, Like a lion among the beasts of the forest, Like a young lion among flocks of sheep, Who, if he passes through, Both treads down and tears in pieces, And none can deliver.

The remnant is strategically placed or positioned by the Lord:

1. In the midst of many people
2. Like dew from the Lord
3. Like showers on the grass
4. Like a lion among beasts
5. Like a young lion among the flocks of sheep

The anointing comes upon the remnant like dew and showers. It will be similar to when the dew and the manna fell on the camp of Israel and the oil running down the beard of Aaron like the dew.

- Num. 11:9 And when the dew fell on the camp in the night, the manna fell on it.
- Psa. 133:1-3 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity! ² It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments. ³ It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing— Life forevermore.

The dew fell upon the camp first and then the manna. When the anointing comes upon the emerging remnant it will be like dew and showers and they will gather the hidden manna of God’s word for the end time season. They will teach and preach the Word with authority and a new level of anointing that will break open the gates. It will be like *a gentle rain, a morning dew, a sprinkling rain on new grass, and spring showers on the garden*.

- Deut. 32:2-5 MSG My teaching, let it fall like a gentle rain, my words arrive like morning dew, Like a sprinkling rain on new grass, like spring showers on the garden. ³ For it’s GOD’s Name I’m preaching— respond to the greatness of our God! ⁴ The Rock: His works are perfect, and the way he works is fair and

just; A God you can depend upon, no exceptions, a straight-arrow God.⁵ His messed-up, mixed-up children, his non-children, throw mud at him but none of it sticks.

The end time remnant kingdom mission force will be like a mighty stream of revival fire. They will operate with a powerful end time breakthrough anointing. The Lord will be *a wall of fire* around them:

- Zech. 2:5 For I,' says the LORD, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.' ”

Here again is the fire and the glory we talked about earlier. In addition, the emerging remnant and all who gather with them will share an important prophetic identity.

- Is. 49:1-7 “Listen, O coastlands, to Me, And take heed, you peoples from afar! The Lord has called Me from the womb; From the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name.² And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; In the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me, And made Me a polished shaft; In His quiver He has hidden Me.”³ “And He said to me, ‘You are My servant, O Israel, In whom I will be glorified.’ ”⁴ Then I said, ‘I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; Yet surely my just reward is with the Lord, And my work with my God.’ ”⁵ “And now the Lord says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, So that Israel is gathered to Him (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, And My God shall be My strength),⁶ Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ”⁷ Thus says the Lord, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, To Him whom man despises, To Him whom the nation abhors, To the Servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, Because of the Lord who is faithful, The Holy One of Israel; And He has chosen You.”

Each member of this end time remnant will be a polished shaft or arrow in the Lord’s quiver bringing light into darkness. They will be servants of the Lord hidden and preserved in Him. They will be strengthened by the Lord. They will be glorious and a light to the world. The anointing upon them will break through the gate in every place.”

The Coming of the One who Breaks Open the Gate

We saw in the previous section that there is an emerging remnant being assembled by the hand of the Lord. This remnant is going to break open the gate in many places with end time authority, power, and dominion. They are about to *break out* in a most powerful way.⁴⁹

- Micah 2:12-13 “I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together like sheep of the fold, Like a flock in the midst of their pasture; They shall make a loud noise because of so many people.¹³ The one who breaks open will come up before them; They will break out, Pass through the gate, And go out by it; Their king will pass before them, With the LORD at their head.”

⁴⁹ Strong. 6555. פָּרַץ *parats*, *paw-rats*; a primitive root; to break out (in many applications, direct and indirect, literal and figurative):—x abroad, (make a) breach, break (away, down, -er, forth, in, up), burst out, come (spread) abroad, compel, disperse, grow, increase, open, press, scatter, urge.

There is an emphasis on breaking in the above passage of Scripture. There will be one who comes and breaks open the gate so the remnant can *break out* and *pass through the gate*. This is another of many Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament. The prophet Micah is a contemporary of Isaiah. Both prophesied when God's people were in captivity. It was a time of wicked rulers and prophets who prophesied what the people wanted to hear. But God's plan points to the coming of the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One, the Lord of the Breakthrough to break open the gate, lead the remnant out of captivity and into the glorious kingdom of heaven. Matthew Henry really captures the full picture of Jesus Christ as *The Breaker* and those He anoints and uses as breakthrough agents in His redemptive purpose:

"The breaker has come up before them, to break down all opposition, and clear the road for them; and under his guidance they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, the door of escape out of their captivity, and have gone out by it with courage and resolution, having Omnipotence for their van-guard. Their King shall pass before them, to head them in the way, even Jehovah (he was their king) on the head of them, as he was on the head of the armies of Israel when they followed the pillar of cloud and fire through the wilderness and when he appeared to Joshua as captain of the Lord's host. Christ is the church's King; he is Jehovah; he heads them, passes before them, brings them out of the land of their captivity, brings them into the land of their rest. He is the breaker, that broke through them, that rent the veil, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. The learned bishop Pearson applies it to the resurrection of Christ, by which he obtained the power and became the pattern of our resurrection. The breaker has gone up before us out of the grave, and has carried away its gates, as Samson did Gaza's, bar and all, and by that breach we go out. The learned Dr. Pocock mentions, as the sense which some of the ancient Jews give of it, that the breaker is Elias, and their King the Messiah, the Son of David; and he thinks we may apply it to Christ and his forerunner John the Baptist. John was the breaker; he broke the ice, prepared the way of the Lord by the baptism of repentance; in him the gospel began; from his time the kingdom of heaven suffered violence; and so the Christian church is introduced, with Messiah the Prince before it, on the head of it, going forth conquering and to conquer."⁵⁰

Look at it this way. Jesus Christ is the Master Breaker. And He places the breaker anointing on whom He chooses. Remember, we are talking about the aspect of breaking that affects cities and nations. For example, Revival Blessing International Ministries (RBIM) in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, India, conducted a 3-day plan with fasting for a nearby city named, Ziro. Look how they planned and understood the prayers and the meetings for this city:

"It's going to be a curse breaking meeting. Every curse over Ziro God's going to break, Jesus is going to break. When we planned this program (the dream of our Pastor Tubin), a demon came and said, why are you here? He said the demon is an international demon like more than a demon. We understood this 3-day curse breaking that it's going to be a blessing for Ziro. Because when people are doing sin, the curse is coming upon the place and nation. But when we pray, when we break in the name of Jesus, I mean that place is going to be blessed. So, everyone needs to pray for that meeting. Because when we pray together, God will work glorious things. Prayer is very important to bring God's word in this earth."⁵¹

This aspect of the breaker anointing is needed today. Many government rulers at this time oppose the preaching of the Gospel and the advance of God's kingdom work in their nations

⁵⁰ Matthew Henry. *Commentary on the Whole Bible* (Unabridged). Accordance electronic edition, version 1.8. 6 vols. Altamonte Springs: OakTree Software, 2004. [https://accordance.bible/link/read/Henry Commentary#27212](https://accordance.bible/link/read/Henry%20Commentary#27212).

⁵¹ Pastor Shajet Thomas and Pastor Tubin Mudang, RBIM Sunday *Worship and Word of God*, Itanagar, June 25, 2023.

and in their cities. They are increasing persecution and restricting crusades for healing and deliverance. What are they fearful of? Is it Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Breakthrough? It is the fear of Christ raising up a remnant with the breaker anointing. It is also important to understand the role of prophets and intercessors in breaking strongholds at this level. Ezekiel says the prophets of his time were foolish because they would *prophesy out of their own heart* and could not *stand in battle on the day of the Lord*.

- Ezek. 13:1-5 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ² “Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy out of their own heart, ‘Hear the word of the LORD!’ ” ³ Thus says the Lord GOD: “Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! ⁴ O Israel, your prophets are like foxes in the deserts. ⁵ You have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the LORD. ⁶ They have envisioned futility and false divination, saying, “Thus says the LORD!’ But the LORD has not sent them; yet they hope that the word may be confirmed. ⁷ Have you not seen a futile vision, and have you not spoken false divination? You say, “The LORD says,’ but I have not spoken.”

Why could they not stand in battle or prophesy so Israel could stand in battle? The word of the Lord says that it was because they *have not gone into the gaps to build a wall*. The prophet is not speaking of physical gaps or walls, but spiritual ones. What were these gaps? The Hebrew word *perets* again is used in the Scriptures. I have repeatedly brought this strong breakthrough word to your attention. In its noun form it refers to a breach or gap from which one breaks out or forth into battle and the verb form refers to the action of breaking out.⁵² Therefore, God is against the foolish prophets who do not operate with the breaker anointing at this level. But God not only calls prophets to prophesy at this level of breakthrough to affect cities, regions, and nations for Christ. He also calls intercessors to *make a wall, and stand in the gap* before Him.

- Ezek. 22:30 So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.

I make every effort to connect with intercessors at home and abroad wherever I go. Although I pray with them and have them pray for me, I also observe the level of the intercession. Is it at the level *on behalf of the land*? I also listen for the name of Jesus. I look for the warrior spirit breaking forth. I am attentive to any prophetic words and Scriptures that come forth. I carefully observe changes in intensity, unity, and environment as intercessors pray in one accord with tongues of fire. I am looking for anyone with the breaker anointing. I follow their lead in intercession rising up with them to a strategic level of breakthrough. When I experience such high levels of engagement by intercessors, the Spirit bears witness that something is about to break open in that city or village. Jesus Christ, the Lord of the breakthrough, is seeking these intercessors today. I believe He is finding them. Why is this so important?

⁵² Strong. 6556. פָּרַץ *perets*, *peh'-rets*; from 6555; a break (literally or figuratively):—breach, breaking forth (in), x forth, gap. 6555. פָּרַץ *parats*, *paw-rats*; a primitive root; to break out (in many applications, direct and indirect, literal and figurative):—x abroad, (make a) breach, break (away, down, -er, forth, in, up), burst out, come (spread) abroad, compel, disperse, grow, increase, open, press, scatter, urge.

“The heart of God is searching for those who will answer the need for someone to ‘stand in the gap.’ The picture is clear: Without someone in place, invasion of the darkness occurs, and eventual destruction of people takes place.”⁵³

It is important to understand that a breakthrough force is necessary in every place. Even one apostle or one prophet, or one intercessor can breakthrough with this level of breaking anointing.

- **Psa. 106:23** Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach, To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy *them*.

I believe more and more apostles, prophets, and evangelists in particular will begin operating at this level of breakthrough anointing.

One final element of the breaker anointing that needs to be covered in this section is the aspect of breaking yokes of oppression off of individuals. At this level of anointing, you are not necessarily affecting an entire nation though there is an impact. Look at this Scripture again:

- **Is. 58:6** “*Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke?*”

-

We are talking about the anointing that *breaks every yoke*. There is a different breaking word used in the above verse from Isaiah.

נָתַק *nathaq*, *naw-thak*; a primitive root; to tear off:—break (off), burst, draw (away), lift up, pluck (away, off), pull (out), root out.⁵⁴

The goal of this level of breakthrough anointing is for you to use the authority and power you received from Christ to tear things off the lives of people that keep them from God. It involves a willingness to stand against evil and lead people back to the Lord. You must warn those who are spiritually lost and those who are rebellious to repent and turn to God. You compassionately pray with authority to break sickness, unclean spirits, and oppression off of them. You go after the root and tear it away from their life in the mighty name of Jesus. The breaker anointing upon you will cause you to flow in authority to help people escape the coming judgment of God. They will pass through the open gate from their captivity. The breaker anointing is a no-nonsense anointing. There is no spiritual compromise with this anointing. This anointing is to set others free. Multitudes are spiritually lost and hurting today. This is why the Lord wants you to be a breaker!

“Everybody wants a breakthrough, but nobody wants to be a breaker. God is looking for people with a breaker mentality to prepare the way for Him to come. Breakers, by necessity, are often broken people. Isaiah talks about the visage of Christ,

⁵³ Spirit Filled Life Bible. 3rd Edition (2018), Thomas Nelson: Nashville, TN, Kingdom Dynamics. *God's Quest, INTERCESSION*. P. 1118

⁵⁴ Strong. 5423.

that we would despise Him; that His looks would be disfigured. Breakers are often broken men and women, but because they are broken, they break things in the heavenlies.”⁵⁵

Therefore, don't disqualify yourself because you have some brokenness in your life. Don't be silent sitting around watching others suffer under heavy yokes of bondage and oppression in the struggles of life. Rise up! Use the authority in Christ to break yokes for your sake and for the sake of others. The breaker anointing is for you.

- **Mark 16:17-18** And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

The Repairer of the Breach

A season of shaking is happening in the church and upon the earth today. We see a wavering in the faith of many as more and more believers slip and fall away from the church. There is evidence of decline and decay in many churches that compromise the faith with unacceptable cultural practices in the nations. Some churches and denominations have already entered the fold of the apostate. Others have built walls to accommodate the times, but with what Ezekiel calls *untempered mortar*⁵⁶ (Ezek. 13:14). There are a lot of frivolous things going on in churches today that have little to do with the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power. These walls of religiosity will fall by the hand of the Lord. Churches and nations are fractured and appear to be ready to crash and burn in many places. The cry of the Psalmist is heard: *Heal its breaches, for it is shaking* (Psa. 60:2). Breaches in this context are referring to gaps or open spaces in the wall around God's people that expose them to attack and infiltration by an enemy. There is demonic activity in churches today because breaches exist caused by sinful lifestyles and a departure from sound doctrine. What does the Spirit say about this?

- **1Tim. 4:1-2** Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron...

Why is this happening in many churches today? One of the main reasons is many believers no longer hold fast to the word of God. For example, a Gallop poll in 2017 indicated only 24% of Americans believed the Bible is the literal word of God.⁵⁷ This belief in the Bible declined from 1976 to 2017 by double digits in every age group, but the most alarming decline was with the young generation.

⁵⁵ *The Revival Study Bible*. Mic. 2:13 Study note, p. 1240.

⁵⁶ Strong. **8602**. **תַּפְּחֵל** *taphel*, *taw-fale*; from an unused root meaning to smear; plaster (as gummy) or slime; (figuratively) frivolity:—foolish things, unsavoury, untempered.

⁵⁷ Lydia Saad. *Social & Policy Issues*. [Record Few Americans Believe Bible Is Literal Word of God \(gallup.com\)](http://www.gallup.com). May 15, 2017.

“Notably, in 1976, some of the same groups -- older Americans and Protestants, along with women, were more inclined than their counterparts toward biblical literalism. Since then, this belief has fallen by double digits among every group, but it is down the most on a proportional basis among young adults -- falling by more than half, from 32% to 12%.”⁵⁸

This shows a staggering move away from God’s word. A growing number of young Americans view the Bible as an ancient book of fables. Here is a breakdown of Christians and those with no religion at all when it comes to the Bible as God’s word:

Americans	Actual word of God (Literal)	Inspired Word of God (Not Literal)	Ancient book of fables
Total Christian	30%	54%	14%
Protestant	35%	51%	12%
Catholic	21%	58%	19%
No Religion	7%	21%	68%

Such conditions in churches reveal that there are breaches in the wall. The enemy is not only outside the perimeters of the church, but inside as well. In addition, breaches occur when a church grieves and quenches the Holy Spirit.

We saw in the previous section that Ezekiel spoke against the prophets because they *have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the LORD* (Ezek. 13:5). We saw how Moses stood in the gap in his time. We heard the cry of God’s heart for just one intercessor who would build a wall and stand in the gap. A gap or breach is something that will ruin you if not repaired. The root cause of breaches in the church is sin according to God’s word.

- **Is. 30:13** Therefore this iniquity shall be to you Like a breach ready to fall, A bulge in a high wall, Whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant.

The new generation church finds it difficult to see that the world in which we live is so fragile. But the breaking, the affliction, the destruction that comes with these gaps caused by sinful practices and forsaking the Lord will come *suddenly, in an instant*. This means it comes straight way and in the wink of the eyes. But the prophet Isaiah introduces us to the *Repairer of the Breach*.

- **Is. 58:11-12** Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’ ‘If you take away the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, ¹⁰ If you extend your soul to the hungry And satisfy the afflicted soul, Then your light shall dawn in the darkness, And your darkness shall be as the noonday. ¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually, And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. ¹² Those from among you Shall build the old waste places; You shall raise up the foundations of many generations; And you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Streets to Dwell In.

⁵⁸ Ibid.

First of all, the Lord of the breakthrough, the One who breaks open the gate, the Anointed One, is also the One who will anoint and use those among you to repair the breach. Of course, Jesus repaired the breach and restored our relationship with God through His death, burial, and resurrection from the dead. He broke down the wall of separation (See Eph. 2:14-18). But Isaiah also said there would be those among you who would be called repairers of the breach. Repairers of the breach carry revival fire as they close up the breach in the wall. The presence and power of the Lord need to be restored in many churches today. I see many pastors and churches who began with the Holy Spirit but now seem to be ending in the flesh. Their churches are not growing. There is little evidence of spiritual gifts. The tongues of fire are silent. Worship is dry. Anointing is missing. It is not a well-watered garden. However, there will be repairers of this breach anointed with revival fire whom the Lord will use to restore the Word and the things of the Spirit in many churches. The writers of the Revival Study Bible see three types of revival in verse 12 of Isaiah 58:

“Several types of revival are identified in this verse. Though this verse could be interpreted merely from the perspective of natural cities and locations, as Christians, we are supposed to impact these things. Various spiritual conditions are also indicated in this revival verse. The three most important types of revival found here are: the revival of foundations of generations, the revival of broken-down boundaries, and the revival of the ancient spiritual pathways. All three are directly linked together when determining revival ministry. To overlook these and their sequential order is disastrous. Practically speaking, the unseen boundaries and pathways are actually offshoots, and they are located within the spiritual foundations. A Christian should ask God to reveal which of these three areas in his life needs revival.”⁵⁹

The spiritual foundation of the new generation church is going to be accompanied by revival fire.

The Apostles and the Early Church carried revival fire wherever they went. But old walls of separation had to be demolished between Jews and Samaritans, Jews and Gentiles, and all other people. These walls and breaches also had to be repaired for the revival fire to spread. The breach with Samaritans was repaired through a crusade conducted by the Evangelist Phillip (See Acts 8:4-25). In addition, the breach with Gentiles was repaired beginning with a home fellowship hosted by a Roman Centurion named, Cornelius (See Acts 10:1-48). Revival fire fell upon the entire household in a sudden moment of time. Just like today, debates arose in the Early Church about the Baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. However, after Peter bore witness to what had taken place, the apostles and brethren in Judea could only glorify God that He had *also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life* (Acts 11:18). But there continued to be religious leaders who wanted to bring new converts under the yoke of the law of Moses and circumcision. God used Paul and Barnabas to repeatedly break this yoke during their first missionary journey. However, some leaders came from Judea to Antioch teaching *unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved* (Acts 15:1). This caused a lot of dissension and debate until the church sent Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem over this matter. The dispute continued in Jerusalem until Peter bore witness again, drawing their attention once more to what took place in the house of Cornelius where they heard the gospel, believed the Word, and were given the Holy Spirit.

⁵⁹ *The Revival Study Bible* (2010). Armour Publishing, Singapore. Isa. 58:12 *Several Types of Revivals*, p. 980.

You can hear and feel the sound of breaking of this strong religious yoke of bondage in his concluding words?

- Acts 15:10-11 Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? ¹¹ But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved in the same manner as they.”

Did you notice how Peter’s appeal moved from breaking the yoke of religious bondage to applying the grace and manner of salvation to all who call upon the Lord? In fact, he even viewed the Gentiles as examples of salvation for the Jews saying, ***we shall be saved in the same manner as they***. Peter had the breaker anointing and could also be called a repairer of the breach. The multitude was silenced as Paul and Barnabas declared ***how many miracles and wonders God had worked through them among the Gentiles*** (Acts 15:12). Now the brethren in Jerusalem were ready to hear what the Spirit was saying to the church. Enter another repairer of the breach, James, the brother of the Lord.

- Acts 15:13-21 And after they had become silent, James answered, saying, “Men *and* brethren, listen to me: ¹⁴ Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name. ¹⁵ And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written: ¹⁶ “*After this I will return And will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, And I will set it up;* ¹⁷ *So that the rest of mankind may seek the LORD, Even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, Says the LORD who does all these things.*” ¹⁸ “Known to God from eternity are all His works. ¹⁹ Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, ²⁰ but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, *from* sexual immorality, *from* things strangled, and *from* blood. ²¹ For Moses has had throughout many generations those who preach him in every city, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath.” ²² Then it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas, *namely*, Judas who was also named Barsabas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren.
- Amos 9:11-12 “On that day I will raise up The tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, And repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, And rebuild it as in the days of old; ¹² That they may possess the remnant of Edom, And all the Gentiles who are called by My name,” Says the LORD who does this thing.

James led the assembly to consider and apply the words of the prophet Amos. Apostolic and prophetic foundations were repaired and restored so the revival fire of the ministry of Jesus could spread to the ends of the earth. I believe we are entering into a season of prophetic fulfillment. All over the world there will be breakthrough agents and repairers of the breach arising among the young remnant church. Revival fire will spread to the ends of the earth. Jesus will be at the head of them.

CHAPTER 6: OPERATING IN THE ANOINTING

Receiving and Releasing the Anointing

We have introduced three types of anointing seen in the Bible. The following chart gives you a quick glance at these primary anointing categories:

Abiding Anointing	Empowering Anointing	Breaker Anointing
<p><u>1John 2:20-21</u> But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. ²¹ I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth.</p> <p><u>1John 2:26-27</u> These things I have written to you concerning those who <i>try to deceive you</i>. 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.</p>	<p><u>Acts 1:8</u> But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”</p> <p><u>Luke 24:49</u> Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”</p> <p><u>Mark 26:17-20</u> And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” ¹⁹ So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with <i>them</i> and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.</p>	<p><u>Isa. 10:27</u> It shall come to pass in that day <i>That</i> his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, And his yoke from your neck, And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.</p> <p><u>Isa. 58:6</u> “<i>Is</i> this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke?</p> <p><u>Ezek. 22:30</u> So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.</p> <p><u>Isa. 58:12</u> Those from among you Shall build the old waste places; You shall raise up the foundations of many generations; And you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Streets to Dwell In.</p> <p><u>Eph. 2:14</u> For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation...</p>

There is much written about receiving these anointings, however, we need to enter this discussion with an enlightened understanding. There are entrance points established for each of these anointings that will be presented in this chapter along with a few of the major keys to receiving, operating, and increasing in the anointing. Although spiritual disciplines like personal prayer, fasting, worship, bible study, and the like are very important, receiving the anointing is not on the basis of works or our own merit any more than our salvation is. I agree

with what Benny Hinn says about this: *The anointing is not limited by time or space. It does its work whenever and wherever God needs it to.*⁶⁰

There was a tremendous anointing upon the Apostles of the Early Church. The anointing was upon them with great power. How did they receive this anointing? Peter and John had been arrested and threatened by religious authorities over their bold preaching of Christ and the miraculous healing of the lame beggar at the entrance to the temple. Upon their release they went to their brethren, and they all erupted in prayer.

- Acts 4:23-33 And being let go, they went to their own *companions* and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. ²⁴ So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You *are* God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, ²⁵ who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: "*Why did the nations rage, And the people plot vain things? ²⁶The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the LORD and against His Christ.*" ²⁷ "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together ²⁸ to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. ²⁹ Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, ³⁰ by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus." ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. ³² Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. ³³ And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

The above prayer is one of my favorites in the Bible. I believe it shows a deeper hunger for God to further anoint them with boldness (divine enablement) and power *to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus*. It has much more to say about receiving the anointing than you may think. First, consider why there is so much opposition *against the Lord and against His Christ* (or His Anointed). Men and nations at every level were coming against Jesus, *whom You anointed*. This situation is repeating itself today. The mention of the anointing in this prayer drew my attention. I used to think of this prayer entirely in the context of strategic level praying and spiritual warfare, but I now see that it is also about receiving fresh and greater anointing in the face of stiff opposition. It is of great significance that God answered their prayer by filling them all again with the Holy Spirit. They received what they were seeking. The role of the Holy Spirit is consistent with all that the Bible speaks about the anointing. They went forth preaching with a greater anointing of power and divine enablement in their lives and ministries. Keep in mind that there was not only great power in this anointing, but also *great grace was upon them all*. Therefore, you must be careful not to see the anointing as strictly merit based because the Spirit anoints whom He wants. It is by His grace.

The Holy Spirit is the major agent in receiving the anointing. You cannot have a relationship with Jesus without the Holy Spirit. In fact, you cannot even confess Him as Lord without the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is present and active providing the entrance point to each

⁶⁰ Benny Hinn. *Mysteries of the Anointing* (p. 60).

category of anointing. You receive the abiding anointing at salvation. This anointing as we presented in chapter 2 guides you in the truth, opens up your understanding of the Scriptures, and helps you to grow in the Lord. With the abiding anointing the Holy Spirit focusses you on the Word as absolute truth against all the deceptive lies of the devil. On the other hand, you receive the empowering anointing when you are baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire. The Spirit comes upon you like He did in the Early Church, and you speak in new tongues, the tongues of fire. With the empowering anointing you boldly witness for Jesus. This includes the power to perform signs, wonders, and miracles. The breaker anointing is when the Spirit comes upon you in spiritual battle against forces of darkness. Suddenly, you begin speaking breakthrough words that affect the lives of people in bondage or affecting villages, cities, regions, and nations. Without the abiding anointing, you cannot grow in the Lord. Without the empowering anointing of the Holy Spirit, the working of miracles for the greater harvest will be limited. Without the breaker anointing, evil strongholds and territorial spirits will not be pulled down to set captives free in your village, city, region, and nation. What is important for you to understand and accept is that you are completely dependent upon the Holy Spirit for the anointing.

It was the night of July 4, 2023. Fireworks for the Independence Day celebrations in America had just begun. They were loud but I fell sound asleep. Surprisingly, I heard nothing all night and into the morning except a name the Holy Spirit repeated over and over again: *R.W. Schambach*. Although I was aware of this famous Evangelist from the early days of my walk with the Lord, I concluded the Spirit wanted me to read a book written by his daughter, Donna Schambach. I quickly downloaded the Kindle Edition and finished the book by the end of the day. His daughter, shared this about her father in the preface:

“What set him apart, what deepened his resolve to whip the devil, what gave him a boldness to confront the demon hordes—was the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit Himself poured upon my father a steady stream of holy “oil.” He was set apart with Holy Ghost power to preach God’s word, “fish” for men, impart faith, and see miracles! R. W. Schambach was called to a specific time and place for ministry, and he was anointed for that role because of his spiritual hunger and his relationship with the Holy Spirit. He went after miracles with his whole heart. He also instinctively knew the job God wanted to do on the earth was far beyond him.”⁶¹

I understood from the outset after reading these words that the Spirit wanted to encourage and strengthen my faith and the anointing upon my life and ministry. In all honesty, I was feeling inadequate preparing for a future 5-Fold Global strategic mission operation in Asia. Even writing this training manual on the anointing seemed like an insurmountable task for me. I felt my level of faith and level of anointing did not measure up to what the Lord wanted done through me for His glory. I believe many Christians feel this way and it is a problem today in the church. Of course, the Holy Spirit knows all this. He chose to build me up in reading about the life and ministry of this departed man of God, R.W. Schambach (April 3, 1926 - January 17, 2012). I have learned to be open to the unique ways the Lord brings His strength, His power, and His anointing upon my life and ministry.

⁶¹ R.W. Schambach and Donna Schambach (2016). *The Anointing for Miracles*. Destiny Image, Inc.. Kindle Edition, Preface.

There are Christians and especially pastors who are working hard and believe they can do it in their own strength when only God can. But how does God do it through you? What is His design? What is His way, His strategy in regard to receiving the anointing? First, you must surrender to the Baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. It is God's plan. But you say, *I'm from a denomination that does not believe in this and in particular the praying in tongues part.* Interestingly, the exact entrance point to receiving power and anointing for miracles in your life and ministry is the point of greatest resistance. You cannot afford to resist the Holy Spirit in this way. Remember what Stephen said to the religious leaders, ***You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you*** (Acts 7:51).

Jesus walked in perfect unity with His Father. He spoke what He heard His Father speak. He did what His Father told Him to do. He walked and lived by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is the Father's will for you and me ***to walk just as He walked*** (1John 2:6). And Jesus walked in the power of the Holy Spirit. Let these encouraging words from Brother Schambach sink in today.

- "You might be wondering about the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Your pastor might tell you that it's not for today, or that it's not for everyone today, just some. Well, I'm telling you it's for you. God has provided a mighty in-filling of the Holy Ghost and power to carry His people over the turbulent times of these last days. You need this! It is for you! Let God baptize you in the Holy Ghost and fire!"⁶²
- The disciples obeyed Jesus, and on the Day of Pentecost, 120 people met for prayer in an upper room of a house in Jerusalem. The initial baptism of the Holy Spirit had unique characteristics, including a rushing, mighty wind blowing through the upper room and tongues of fire sitting upon each believer's head. Yet one expression of the Holy Spirit's baptism remaining throughout the Book of Acts when the disciples prayed for believers to receive "the gift" of the Holy Spirit, was speaking in other tongues.⁶³
- Praying in the Holy Spirit is a wonderful adventure and also a powerful spiritual strengthening and encouragement: "But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit" (Jude 1:20).⁶⁴

This anointing with power spoken about above is for miracles. The church needs miracles today to set captives free in every place. The new generation church will be one filled and anointed with the Holy Spirit and power.

The ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ is destined to continue in every generation on the face of the earth. Jesus is repositioning His church to fulfill these prophetic words:

- **John 14:12-14** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.
- **Acts 1:8** But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The greater works and the power to do them are divinely connected in the above verses. And the Lord strategically connects them to the Baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire He promised

⁶² Schambach. Kindle location 1881.

⁶³ Ibid. Kindle location 656.

⁶⁴ Ibid. Kindle Location 674

to pour out upon believers after He returned to His Father. This is firmly established by the word of God. I pray you have fully grasped by now that this is God's plan for you to receive the empowering anointing to further His ministry. Any confusion about this is not from God because God cannot lie. Let us now turn our attention to some keys that affect receiving and the development of the anointing.

The anointing upon Brother Schambach spanned over 60 years of ministry. One of the things his daughter learned from him was that *there are distinctions about each individual God uses; and, there are common practices that develop a fuller understanding of faith and the anointing for supernatural works.*⁶⁵ Although I have read others who listed similar keys to receiving the anointing, the key or *common practices* Sister Schambach observed in her father resonated in my spirit.

"The Bible introduces us to the world of the supernatural, and also gives us principles or keys to living in supernatural relationship with a living God. We need to understand these vital keys before we can live full lives with the Lord, and tap into His supernatural power to receive the anointing for miracles:

- Key 1: Faith
- Key 2: Holy Spirit Empowerment
- Key 3: Compassion
- Key 4: Authority
- Key 5: Obedience
- Key 6: Coveting
- Key 7: Spiritual Perception
- Key 8: Consecration and Holiness⁶⁶

Although we will explain each of these keys in this chapter, they all strongly enhance obvious spiritual disciplines like prayer and fasting, worship, and the study of Scripture. These keys, however, take you deeper into your relationship with the Lord and with the Holy Spirit in your worship and prayer to receive and release a greater anointing in your life. This is important because many Christians are not tapping into the power. I want to tap more and more into the power of the anointing for miracles. And I desire you also to receive and release the anointing for miracles in your life and ministry for the greater harvest. My life's purpose is to help equip you to fulfill the book of Acts in the power of the Holy Spirit. All glory to the Lord! This is why my prayer to the Lord in my elderly years has been this:

- **Psa. 71:18** Now also when *I am* old and grayheaded, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to *this* generation, Your power to everyone *who* is to come.⁶⁷

It is important for every Christian to understand that faith is a trigger that moves the hand of God to do supernatural things. Keep in mind that *without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of*

⁶⁵ Schambach. Kindle location 274.

⁶⁶ Ibid. Kindle location 328.

⁶⁷ Brother Michael received this word on November 16, 2012, at Liwolo Village, South Sudan.

those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6). Often, this verse is casually spoken, but the Holy Spirit reveals something special in the word *impossible*.

- **ἀδύνατος adunatos**, *ad-oo'-nat-os*; from 1 (as a negative particle) and 1415; unable, i.e. weak (literally or figuratively); passively, impossible: — could not do, impossible, impotent, not possible, weak.⁶⁸
- **δυνατός dunatos**, *doo-nat-os'*; from 1410; powerful or capable (literally or figuratively); neuter possible: — able, could, (that is) mighty (man), possible, power, strong.⁶⁹
- **δύναμαι dunamai**, *doo'-nam-ahē*; of uncertain affinity; to be able or possible: — be able, can (do, + -not), could, may, might, be possible, be of power.⁷⁰

Note that *impossible* is referring to the empowering anointing being negated, weak, and impotent. You can see from the above meanings that without faith the anointing for miracles will not manifest or be activated in the life of the believer. In addition, this Scripture is not just advocating a nominal belief in God. Rather, it is a message to all those who draw near to the Living God, who worship and trust Him, the Anointed One, Jesus Christ, who *is the same yesterday, today, and forever* (Heb. 13:8). And God rewards *those who diligently seek Him*. Although I will discuss several aspects of faith in this chapter, there is one that is essential to the faith that receives and releases the anointing for miracles. It is childlike faith. Did you ever notice how humble and trusting children are? This is the humility the Lord asks of us. It is not a work of the flesh but of the Spirit.

- **Matt. 18:2-4** Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them,³ and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.⁴ Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- **Luke 18:15-17** Then they also brought infants to Him that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw *it*, they rebuked them.¹⁶ But Jesus called them to *Him* and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.¹⁷ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”

In the first passage Jesus used a child to teach his disciples about childlike faith and in the second the people actually brought children to Him. Why did they do this? It was so *He might touch them*. I found it fascinating to discover that this touch was to attach Himself to them and something more. Specifically, His touch kindled a fire.⁷¹ I believe the humble and childlike faith in the children Jesus touched resulted in a spiritual impartation. Brother Schambach once said, *there is something about a child who just believes God*.⁷² He also had this observation:

⁶⁸ Strong. 102.

⁶⁹ Ibid. 1415

⁷⁰ Ibid. 1410

⁷¹ Ibid. **680. ἅπτομαι haptomai**, *hap'-tom-ahē*; reflexive of 681; properly, to attach oneself to, i.e. to touch (in many implied relations): — touch. **681. ἅπτω haptō**, *hap'-to*; a primary verb; properly, to fasten to, i.e. (specially) to set on fire: — kindle, light.

⁷² Schambach. *The Anointing for Miracles*, Kindle location 1248.

“Children believe God. I would rather lay hands on a child than on an adult any day. It is the adults I have problems with. Children believe anything you tell them. The adults, however, deal with logic all the time. They want to know what makes it work. They want to logically figure it out. That is why adults often get nothing from God. A child just says, “Pray for me, and I will be all right.”⁷³

I hope you see the real connection of the childlike faith described above with receiving and releasing the anointing of power for miracles. In fact, *continuing to walk in childlike humility and wonder is key to seeing miracles in our lives*.⁷⁴ I believe the Lord is about to open a door for you to receive and release a fresh anointing for miracles as you approach Him with humility as a little child.

The children that Jesus blessed and touched were not the only ones to receive a spiritual impartation. We have the biblical examples of Moses with Joshua and Elijah with Elisha, but I want to focus on Paul and Timothy again in regard to receiving an anointing from others. We see with Paul and Timothy a spiritual imparting of the anointing that involved not only Paul but also the church leadership. One thing to understand is that the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ includes the imparting of spiritual gifts one to another.

- Rom. 1:11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established—
- Rom. 15:29 But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

The imparting or giving Paul is referring to is spiritual in nature. It has nothing to do with the flesh, but all to do with the Spirit and the anointing. The purpose is to establish believers or *turn them resolutely in a certain direction*.⁷⁵ The impartation is like a steroid shot of the Holy Spirit and anointing. This is why being around anointed leaders often leads to receiving aspects of the anointing that are upon their lives and ministries. The bible confirms that Paul laid his hands upon Timothy, and he received a *charisma*, an anointing that included a miraculous power or capability.

- 2Tim. 1:6-7 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Paul was not the only one that young Timothy received anointing from. Although he had received prophecies (1Tim. 1:18), Paul also reminded him of the anointing (*charisma*) he had received from the eldership.

- 1Tim. 4:12-16 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. ¹³ Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. ¹⁴ Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the

⁷³ Schambach. *The Anointing for Miracles*. Kindle location 1229.

⁷⁴ Schambach. Kindle location 393.

⁷⁵ Strong. **4741**. **στηρίζω** *sterizo*, *stay-rid'-zo*; from a presumed derivative of 2476 (like 4731); to set fast, i.e. (literally) to turn resolutely in a certain direction, or (figuratively) to confirm: – fix, (e-)stablish, steadfastly set, strengthen.

eldership. ¹⁵ Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. ¹⁶ Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

Timothy received both prophecy, anointing, and power when Paul laid his hands upon him and also when the eldership laid hands upon him. This lends credibility to the old adage that *the anointing is more caught than taught*. Therefore, pay careful attention to the role of spiritual impartation in receiving and releasing the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. It is wise to keep this in perspective, however, with the knowledge that your relationship with Jesus Christ is of the highest priority. Remember, the priests, the Sadducees, and the entire Sanhedrin marveled when they saw the boldness (divine enablement) of Peter and John and the miracle of healing that had been done for the forty-year-old man lame from birth. This was until *they realized that they had been with Jesus* (Acts 4:13). People can tell whether you have been with Jesus because there will be an anointing upon you.

Much has been said about receiving the Holy Spirit's power. Jesus is our model for doing ministry including receiving and releasing the anointing for miracles. His ministry began at the river Jordan where He was water baptized and filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Look at this pattern in the beginning of the ministry of Jesus.

- Luke 3:21-23 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. ²² And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." ²³ Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, the son of Heli.
- Luke 4:1-2 Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.
- Luke 4:14-15 Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. ¹⁵ And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

Is this not the same pattern Jesus prescribes for us? It takes bold and courageous faith to yield in humble obedience to this road map for anointed ministry, but it is important and necessary if you are to fulfill what the Lord has called you to do. Consider what Sister Schambach says about the beginning of the ministry of Jesus:

"All other monumental events in Jesus' life took place after this one extraordinary day. His major confrontation with satan; His ordination day in Nazareth; the miracle at the wedding of Cana; the feeding of the 5,000—all of the miracles—every work of the Holy Spirit through Jesus happened after He was baptized in water and by the Holy Spirit. As a pattern, this order is very important. Before we seek to operate in the gifts of the Spirit, it is vitally important to seek the empowerment of the Spirit. This empowering experience, usually coming at the same time or after our salvation experience, is a release of the Holy Spirit's power—the power of the One who already lives inside every believer."⁷⁶

Therefore, my brothers and sisters in Christ, for you to receive and release the anointing for miracles in your life and ministry, you must approach with childlike faith to receive the power

⁷⁶ Schambach. Kindle location 620.

from on high. If you desire to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ, then it is necessary to begin where Jesus began. He was filled with the Holy Spirit and went forth with the anointing and power. Let me conclude this section with some encouraging words from Sister Schambach:

“Dear reader, if you want to have an increased sensitivity to the moving of the Holy Spirit, hearing His voice, and seeing with His eyes, you may first need to ask Jesus to baptize you in the Holy Spirit with the expression of speaking in tongues.”⁷⁷

Flowing in the Anointing

Church leaders and believers in general need to overcome their reluctance to flow in the anointing. I am referring to those who have received an anointing of power after being baptized with the Holy Spirit but struggle to operate in the anointing. So, in this section I want to present the role of compassion, authority, and obedience and how each impacts the flow of the anointing to heal, cast out demons, and save souls. Compassion is a deeply felt emotion generated by the Holy Spirit. It literally means to suffer together. It also comes with a desire to help those who are suffering. Five times in the book of Psalms the Lord is declared not just to be compassionate, but to be *full of compassion* (Psa. 78:38; 86:15; 111:4; 112:4; 145:8). I was also struck by a verse in Deuteronomy:

- Deut. 32:36 “For the LORD will judge His people And have compassion on His servants, When He sees that *their power is gone*, And *there is no one remaining*, bond or free.

God will move with compassion *when He sees that their power is gone*. I believe today God sees many churches whose power has waned. In many cases, it has gone. They have ceased to operate in His power. They may speak of the anointing, but no longer flow in the anointing. But the Lord says He will *have compassion on His servants* when He sees this. Praise the Lord! I found it interesting that none of my study bibles said anything about this verse. However, Matthew Henry’s Commentary confirmed what I believed the Spirit was ministering to me.

“God’s time to appear for the deliverance of his people is when things are at the worst with them. God tries his people’s faith, and stirs up prayer, by letting things go to the worst, and then magnifies his own power, and fills the faces of his enemies with shame and the hearts of his people with so much the greater joy, by rescuing them out of extremity as *brands out of the burning*.”⁷⁸

The Holy Spirit is saying the Lord, full of compassion, is about to move upon the remnant of His people with a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit to magnify His power through them.

Jesus desires to manifest His glory and anointed power through those who follow Him. His compassion showed and moved Him to minister to hurting people with a heart for the harvest.

⁷⁷ Schambach. Kindle location 656.

⁷⁸ Matthew Henry. *Commentary on the Whole Bible (Unabridged)*. Accordance electronic edition, version 1.8. 6 vols. Altamonte Springs: OakTree Software, 2004. Deut. 32:26-38, IV, paragraph 2.

- **Matt. 9:35-38** Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. ³⁶ But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. ³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. ³⁸ Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”

The compassion we are talking about is much deeper than an outward pity or sympathy. The Greek *splagchnizomai* (splangkhn-id´-zom-ahee) is referring to an inward affection, a yearning literally felt in the spleen or bowels.⁷⁹ This compassion moved Jesus to flow in the anointing for miracles and the harvest. He wants you to move with this same compassion.

- “The Holy Spirit loves when His compassion flows from our hearts to help others. Anyone who wants to be used of God to see people healed and delivered will become very familiar with this “Holy Spirit emotion.”⁸⁰
- “The Spirit-emotion we call compassion is and always has been a catalyst for the supernatural power of God to be expressed in healing and miracles. We can see it at work in the ministry of Jesus.”⁸¹

The Bible records numerous times in the ministry of Jesus where compassion triggered the release of the anointing for healing and miracles. Here are some of them:

1. Feeding the hungry

- **Matt. 15:32** Now Jesus called His disciples to *Himself* and said, “I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.”

2. Healing the sick

- **Matt. 14:14** And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.

3. Restoring sight to the blind

- **Matt. 20:34** So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.

4. Cleansing lepers

⁷⁹ **4697. σπλαγχνίζομαι** *splagchnizomai*, *splangkhn-nid´-zom-ahee*; middle voice from 4698; to have the bowels yearn, i.e. (figuratively) feel sympathy, to pity: – have (be moved with) compassion. **4698. σπλάγχνον** *splagchnon*, *splangkhn´-non*; probably strengthened from **σπλήν** *splen* (the “spleen”); an intestine (plural); figuratively, pity or sympathy: – bowels, inward affection, + tender mercy.

⁸⁰ Schambach. Kindle location 855.

⁸¹ Ibid. Kindle location 878.

- Mark 1:41-42 Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.”⁴² As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.

5. Delivering from demons

- Mark 5:19 However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, “Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.”
- Mark 9:22 And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

6. Raising the dead

- Luke 7:13-14 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.”¹⁴ Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried *him* stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.”

The above examples in the ministry of Jesus demonstrate a compassionate and powerful flow in the anointing. It should remind you again of *how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him* (Acts 10:38). Try to capture these truths about how compassion prompts us to flow in the anointing:

- “Compassion is often the motivator for a miracle. Many Christians pray for greater anointing, but if the Holy Spirit lives inside us, the anointing already resides within us. Others pray for greater miracles—not a bad prayer. But how many pray for greater compassion? How many desire to hurt for people and feel their pains and anguish? How many desire to stand for hours to minister to those who are lost and hurting? Compassion requires giving of one’s self—offering up one’s body as a living sacrifice—for the purpose of seeing the supernatural power of God released for healing, miracles, and raising the dead! The Church is in dire need of the expressed gift of compassion; we all need a fresh dose of godly compassion operating through us.”⁸²
- “What could God do if every one of His people would begin to yield to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and love people to their healing and deliverance?”⁸³
- “As we walk with the heart of Jesus into the marketplaces, the government halls, the school systems, and the communities that surround us, His compassion for hurting people will automatically tie us into and allow us to partner with God’s supernatural power, for the healing and deliverance of this generation.”⁸⁴

The keys to receiving, flowing, and operating in the anointing are all related to the anointing for miracles and the greater harvest. We are examining each in expectation of a new level anointing with the Holy Spirit and power for the end time harvest. It is not just to understand the anointing but to flow and operate in the anointing upon your life and ministry. With that being said we come to the key of authority. Many believers are unprepared and ill equipped to take on the onslaught of demonic activity. Brother Schambach once said, *I won’t*

⁸² Schambach. Kindle location 890.

⁸³ Ibid. Kindle location 902.

⁸⁴ Ibid. Kindle location 926.

*have anybody working with me who doesn't know how to cast out devils.*⁸⁵ That may sound rather harsh to some until you look at what the word of God says.

- Luke 9:1-2 Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. ² He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.
- Mark 16:15-20 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” ¹⁹ So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with *them* and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.
- Luke 10:17-19 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.” ¹⁸ And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.
- Rom. 16:20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.
- 2Tim. 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
- 1John 4:4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

You are not only to flow and operate in the power of the Holy Spirit, but also in the delegated authority of Christ. You are anointed by God with the power and authority of the Holy Spirit. The anointing you have in Christ and the Holy Spirit is more powerful than men and demons. Here is some good counsel when it comes to flowing and operating with this authority:

- “Anyone who functions in the supernatural with God’s power flowing through them will be on the front lines confronting territorial demon spirits who are unwilling to free their victims. Those imps will resist every attempt we make to set captives free. So, as any well-trained combatant, we need to be prepared. We must understand the authority of the kingdom we represent. We must know the document that gives us the legal right to cast out demonic squatters.”⁸⁶
- “Jesus was the living Word of God and knew every bit of the truth. Our growth in the exercise of the authority Jesus delegated, increases with our familiarity with His Word. A strong foundation in the Word is key in the anointing for miracles.”⁸⁷
- “Authority from the Word comes first through revelation of its power, and then by our usage of it in the times we confront the enemy.”⁸⁸
- “The Holy Spirit makes the Word of God “alive” to us—He causes each verse to light up like a flashing neon sign in our hearts. When we grasp His signal to believe, miracles take place. Each believer who learns to put the words of the Bible to work for health and healing, will gain a new “authority”—the authority of the Word of God Himself to conquer the enemy’s advances in every arena of life.”⁸⁹

⁸⁵ Schambach. Kindle location 2111.

⁸⁶ Ibid. Kindle location 1061.

⁸⁷ Ibid. Kindle location 1069.

⁸⁸ Ibid. Kindle location 1107.

⁸⁹ Ibid. Kindle location 1136.

- “One time He may put a Scripture in my heart to stand upon and confess; another time He may put a command in my mouth to address a spirit of which He is aware. I am simply an emissary of the Lord Jesus Christ. I function by His Spirit with the authority of His Word.”⁹⁰
- “One final comment is necessary here. As servants of the Lord Jesus, we do not only use the authority of His Word, but we are required to live by the authority of His Word. The release of holy authority through our lives is directly related to our commitment to our living holy and practicing a “set-apart” lifestyle.”⁹¹
- “The Word is the authority for our lives and mission, just as it was for Jesus and His ministry. The more we are able to use the Word of God within our hearts as a mighty sword to defeat every lying advance of the enemy, the more we will walk in new degrees of authority and partnership with God’s supernatural power.”⁹²

Demons are terrified of the anointing upon your life and ministry. They get worried when believers begin to flow in the anointing and speak with a newly restored authority. We should not hesitate to exercise our authority in Christ because some misuse it for their own gain. The Lord is calling us to have the same spirit of faith as seen in the Early Church.

- **2Cor. 4:13-15** And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “*I believed and therefore I spoke,*” we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you. ¹⁵ For all things *are* for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.
- **Mark 11:20** Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. ²¹ And Peter, remembering, said to Him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away.”
- **Mark 11:22** So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God. ²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, “Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. ²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.”

The spirit of faith believes and speaks the word of God with authority and divine enabled boldness. You speak what you hear the Spirit speak when you flow in the anointing. There is an authority in what you speak that surprises those around you. The anointing of the Word and Spirit connects with the spirit of faith and silences all other voices. But you must believe without doubting. When the anointing for miracles comes upon you and you question whether it is from the Lord or hesitate, even withdraw from doing what the Spirit wants you to do, this is doubting. Paul exhorted young Timothy that men should pray everywhere ***without wrath and doubting*** (1Tim. 2:8). Doubting has a negative effect upon your confidence and the anointing for miracles.

- **James 1:6-8** But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ *he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

The lesson here is not to talk yourself out of flowing with the anointing with human logic or questions when the Spirit prompts you to pray for people to be healed and delivered. When you just flow with the anointing doubting nothing then God will do what He says He will do.

⁹⁰ Schambach. Kindle location 1170.

⁹¹ Ibid. Kindle location 1174.

⁹² Ibid. Kindle location 1193.

- “God is looking for men and women who will stand on His Word believing that if He said it, He will do it, and that if He spoke it, He will bring it to pass. God has to take you outside that human realm in order to do something supernatural.”⁹³
- “That is the powerful aspect of faith. Take a stand of faith and say, “Devil, you are a liar. I am going to believe God for a miracle because He is going to turn this situation around.” Speak faith. Speak to that mountain, and that mountain has to obey your words. That is how you will experience the power of faith.”⁹⁴

It is important to understand that when you flow in the anointing with God-given authority you are no longer operating in the human realm. No logic of man can explain the supernatural realm of God in the anointing for miracles. We can only grasp and operate in the authority and power of the anointing in the realm of the Spirit.

Has the Lord ever asked you to do something you did not particularly want to do like sticking your fingers into the ears of a deaf person. Maybe you hesitate because it would be rather embarrassing to do that in the presence of others. Shortly after I was saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, I heard the Spirit during a worship service tell me to pray for a man in a wheelchair. Others had laid hands on him and prayed for him during previous services. But at that moment of time, I knew the Lord was calling me to lay hands on him and pray. But I did not. I had to learn to obey.

“Obeying God can be a challenge when God asks us to do something we don’t want to do; but, obeying Him, is the key to our miracle.”⁹⁵

We need to obey when the Spirit tells us to do something. Obedience opens the door for the anointing to work. Jesus challenged his disciples in this area of obedience.

Luke 6:46 “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”

Obedience requires a submission to God’s will. It is where we willingly move at His command and in this context, we flow with the anointing. I believe many more miracles would take place if we would simply step out and obey. Otherwise, we miss the timing and the anointing wanes. We put a demand on the anointing to do what it is supposed to do when we obey the impulses of the Holy Spirit.

Increasing in the Anointing

There are three keys to the anointing for miracles left to cover, all of which have a positive effect on receiving, flowing, and also increasing in the anointing. In this section I want to present coveting, spiritual perception, consecration and holiness. How badly do you desire to heal the sick and cast out demons to set captives free? Remember, Jesus said believers would do even greater works. Look at these Bible verses in the context of the working of the Holy Spirit:

⁹³ Schambach. Kindle location 1262.

⁹⁴ Ibid. Kindle location 793.

⁹⁵ Ibid. Kindle location 1386.

- 1Cor. 12:1 Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:
- 1Cor. 12:31 KJV But covet earnestly the best gifts:
- 1Cor. 14:1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy.
- 1Cor 14:12 Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual *gifts*, *let it be* for the edification of the church *that* you seek to excel.
- 1Cor. 14:39 KJV Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

The Bible warns against a number of things we are not to covet. However, the things of the Spirit, His gifts, the anointing, and power are to be coveted. And not just coveted, but highly coveted or in other words earnestly desired. It is very revealing that the Greek word used for *covet* or *desire* in these Scriptures refers to being zealous or a zealot.

- **ζηλόω zeloo**, *dzay-lo'-o*; from 2205; to have warmth of feeling for or against: — affect, covet (earnestly), (have) desire, (move with) envy, be jealous over, (be) zealous(-ly affect).⁹⁶
- **ζήλος zelos**, *dzay'-los*; from 2204; properly, heat, i.e. (figuratively) “zeal” (in a favorable sense, ardor; in an unfavorable one, jealousy, as of a husband (figuratively, of God), or an enemy, malice): — emulation, envy(-ing), fervent mind, indignation, jealousy, zeal.⁹⁷
- **ζέω zeo**, *dzeh'-o*; a primary verb; to be hot (boil, of liquids; or glow, of solids), i.e. (figuratively) be fervid (earnest): — be fervent.⁹⁸

I’m sure you caught the link with fire or liquid fire in the context of being zealous. Therefore, when we are looking to increase in the anointing, there must be a burning desire in our hearts that will manifest in our praying, fasting, and worship. I love what Brother Schambach said about this.

“Strongly desiring the gifts is much more than entertaining a giddy thought such as, Oooh, I’d really like to heal the sick and cast out devils! Thinking about the gifts is one thing, coveting them is yet another. Coveting has to do with going after God in prayer, fasting, and specifically asking God to bring more revelation and faith for operating in the gifts. We covet or passionately desire spiritual gifts in the same way we long for and pursue the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I want to be careful to say that this is not an issue of expecting to wait a long time for them, waiting until God thinks we are spiritually mature enough. Nor is it a matter of earning the gifts as a kind of holiness badge. Coveting is about earnestly desiring God’s agenda for our lives. Coveting involves longing and searching for all the treasures the Spirit wants to share with us.”⁹⁹

This is why Paul did not want the Corinthian believers to be ignorant of the things of the Spirit. It is time for you to feel the heat of passionate Godly desire for the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power to bring in the end time harvest. You may find yourself picking up the burden of intercession for people who are sick and oppressed by the devil. Remember, the anointing is never forced upon you. The Spirit does not force you to pray for the sick. You must be willing to pray for them. A burning desire will greatly increase the anointing upon your life and ministry.

⁹⁶ Strong. 2206.

⁹⁷ Ibid. 2205.

⁹⁸ Ibid. 2204.

⁹⁹ Schambach. Kindle location 1601.

Another key to operating in the anointing is spiritual perception. *What do see?* This was what the Lord said to the young prophet Jeremiah when the word of the Lord came to him, and he saw an almond tree and a second time when he saw a boiling pot.

- Jer. 1:11-14 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Jeremiah, what do you see?” And I said, “I see a branch of an almond tree.”¹² Then the LORD said to me, “You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word.”¹³ And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a boiling pot, and it is facing away from the north.”¹⁴ Then the LORD said to me: “Out of the north calamity shall break forth On all the inhabitants of the land.

You may recall that prophets were first known as *seers*.

- 1Sam. 9:9 (Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he spoke thus: “Come, let us go to the seer”; for *he who is now called a prophet was formerly called a seer*.)

Prophets were known for their perception into the things of God. To know what you see by the Spirit and what you hear the Spirit saying to do requires spiritual perception. Simply stated, it is seeing and knowing things through the Holy Spirit. Although you can feel the anointing and see things in the Spirit, spiritual perception is not human perception.

“Spiritual perception, on the other hand, is our ability to see what God is doing and hear what He is saying, this gives us greater accuracy with the word of knowledge, the gifts of healing, and the working of miracles. The best way I can explain this in the natural is to say that it is as though the minister becomes “cocooned” in an airtight bubble of the anointing. At that time, we are ministering on another frequency, tuned in to Heaven, following orders in the midst of “The Cloud.”¹⁰⁰

It is necessary for every believer to grow and function in the ability to see and hear from the Holy Spirit.

The anointing increases when we see, hear, and obey in the realm of the Spirit. Remember, seven times Jesus emphatically concluded His messages to the churches with *he who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches* (Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22). You cannot see or hear unless you are *in the Spirit*.

- Rev. 1:10-11 I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet,¹¹ saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,” and, “What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

The Apostle John heard and saw when he was *in the Spirit*. The Bible says only the Spirit of God knows the things of God. The Holy Spirit is constantly speaking and revealing important things to believers.

- 1Cor. 2:9-16 But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”¹⁰ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.¹¹ For what man knows the things

¹⁰⁰ Schambach. Kindle location 1986.

of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. ¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. ¹⁶ For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

The anointing will not increase through human wisdom or in the natural realm. But when we are in the Spirit realm we hear from the Spirit, faith arises, and the anointing increases to do what the Spirit says. Check out Peter's response to the most important question of the hour for every person.

- **Matt. 16:13-19** When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" ¹⁴ So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

The above passage of Scripture among other things is one involving the release of fresh revelation. And this revelation did not come by flesh and blood but from the heavenly realm. Things will be revealed to you when you are in the Spirit. The anointing will surge from you to fulfill what the Spirit has spoken. There are numerous New Testament examples where spiritual perception is operating in that *airtight bubble of the anointing*. But I will only focus on one where you can grasp the importance of seeing in the Spirit as it relates to compassion, obedience, and authority.

- **Acts 14:8-10** And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. ⁹ *This* man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, ¹⁰ said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked.

Paul was preaching to a group of unknown size in the idolatrous city of Lystra. Although he was addressing them, his eyes were only fastened on one. He literally set his eyes upon a cripple in the group. This is the compassion we discussed at the beginning of the chapter. Then, Paul saw by the Spirit that this man had faith to be healed. This is spiritual perception in action. Next Paul acts in the obedience of faith to command the cripple to *stand up straight on your feet*. Paul rose in faith to yield in obedience to act on the anointing and speak those anointed words of authority. Paul did not know how to do these things in the natural or human realm. Rather, it was by the revelation and direction of the Holy Spirit. The result was that the cripple *leaped and walked*. Glory to God! Let this be a practical lesson to all young

preachers. I urge you to study this progression in the keys to operating in the anointing for miracles:

“There is a “flow” to our spiritual perception and moving in the power of the Spirit:

- Compassion leads us toward the need.
- The eye of the Spirit reveals the specifics of the need.
- The voice of authority calls the miracle into action.”¹⁰¹

This practical flow occurs as the anointing increases in your life and ministry. Although there are times you may miss the direction of the Spirit, consider those as times for the instruction and correction of the Lord. Continue to yield yourself to the Spirit and you will grow in your ability to hear and see by the Spirit.

One final key to operating in the anointing is consecration and holiness. I saved it for last because we have talked extensively about this in other chapters. More importantly, without a pursuit of holiness it will be difficult to learn the fundamental keys to receiving, flowing, and increasing with anointing. There has been a limited focus on consecration and holiness in this generation, but this will not be the case with the remnant of God’s people. Let us take our pursuit of holiness very seriously. Remember, *Holiness is about our character—our integrity. The world has had enough of believers in Christ who speak one thing with their mouths and live in a completely different way.*¹⁰² We are instruments in the hands of the Lord. There are vessels of honor and dishonor. Keep these keys or principles for the anointing as you go forth in your life and ministry.

“Dear reader, please especially remember these keys that open doors to increased anointing in your life: Holy Spirit empowerment; times of consecration with prayer and fasting; coveting the gifts of the Spirit with holy eagerness; and obeying the Spirit’s voice when He tells you to move. These keys will develop in you: Christ-like compassion for hurting people; familiarity with and authority in using the Word of God; childlike faith that will move mountains; and a growing spiritual perception that will develop you into an anointed, Spirit-led instrument in the hand of God.”¹⁰³

The Corporate Anointing

Many churches are not growing today because they do not respect the anointing. Others doubt the anointing for miracles is relevant for their ministries in the modern age. And if you do not respect the anointing, if you doubt the relevancy of the anointing, there will be no demand placed upon the anointing to do anything through you. The people inside and outside the church who need healed and delivered will continue in the same condition unless men and women of God learn to move forward with the anointing when God’s people assemble together. The anointing for miracles is a mantle of power from God to continue the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth. So, I encourage you to echo what the prophet Isaiah declared:

- **Isa. 8:18 Here am I and the children whom the LORD has given me! We are for signs and wonders in Israel From the LORD of hosts, Who dwells in Mount Zion.**

¹⁰¹ Schambach. Kindle location 1999.

¹⁰² Ibid. Kindle location 2271.

¹⁰³ Ibid. Kindle location 2284.

This will take a commitment and a willingness to be reeducated by God and to strategize how to conduct corporate church services. I agree with what the late Dr. Peter Wagner said about this educational commitment:

“Following the biblical pattern lies at the heart of our educational commitment. We are dedicated to finding out how God has worked in the past and how He is working at present to make His church grow. Who can doubt the role of signs and wonders in establishing Jesus’ credentials as the Son of the living God and initiator of God’s kingdom? Who can question the importance of miracles in the spread of the gospel in the founding of the church in the book of Acts?”¹⁰⁴

Therefore, in this section, we want to look at how best we can align ministry with how Jesus and the Early Church ministered to people. I use the term *corporate anointing* to identify the power and work of the Holy Spirit operating when people gather together to hear the word of God. I have often observed environments suddenly change in homes and church services when the Holy Spirit shows up. Therefore, before we look at some biblical examples of the corporate anointing, consider these questions:

- Am I willing to be moved by the Holy Spirit to flow in alignment with His word and the anointing?
- Am I willing to minister the Spirit’s baptism with tongues of fire to believers?
- Do I believe I can be established (supported, confirmed and faithful) in the things of the Spirit?
- Do I know God is with me to confirm His word with signs following?
- Do I hallow (regard as holy) and fear (revere, respect) the Lord of hosts and the anointing to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ through me on earth?
- Am I willing to yield to the Holy Spirit and move in the anointing in public gatherings?
- Am I fully committed to come into apostolic and prophetic alignment with the Lord for signs and wonders?

If you can answer yes to these questions, then the Holy Spirit will work through you. He wants to testify about Jesus. He wants to perform miracles to manifest His glory. I believe the anointing for miracles is available in every gathering. Keep in mind I am not limiting gatherings to those in church buildings but also those in homes and crusades outside the church walls. Some of the greatest moves of the anointing I have experienced have been in house gatherings. There are three public or group settings where we can see the corporate anointing manifest in gatherings. They are when people gather to worship, or to pray, or to hear the preaching of God’s word. These settings serve as avenues for the anointing to operate in accordance with God’s will.

The first setting where the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power is most likely to be encountered is public worship. This was evident when Solomon dedicated the temple and also when Jehoshaphat sent out the praise and worship team in the midst of battle.

- **2Chr. 5:11-14** And it came to pass when the priests came out of the *Most Holy Place* (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without keeping to their divisions), ¹² and the Levites *who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them*

¹⁰⁴ Peter Wagner (1987). *Signs & Wonders Today*. Creation House, pp. 132-133.

one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets—¹³ indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers *were* as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, *saying*: “*For He is good, For His mercy endures forever,*” that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud,¹⁴ so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

- 2Chr. 20:14-22 Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly.¹⁵ And he said, “Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: ‘Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle *is* not yours, but God’s.’¹⁶ Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel.¹⁷ You will not *need* to fight in this *battle*. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!’ Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD *is* with you.”¹⁸ And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with *his* face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.¹⁹ Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with voices loud and high.²⁰ So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.”²¹ And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: “Praise the LORD, For His mercy *endures forever.*”²² Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.

These are very familiar accounts where worship and praising the Lord releases an anointing where the fire and glory of God manifests along with the power to defeat the enemy. You may also recall that the evil spirit left Saul whenever David worshipped on the harp. In the New Testament, Paul and Silas sang in prison while others listened led to an anointing that shook the prison doors and brought salvation to them.

- Acts 16:25-34 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.²⁶ Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed.²⁷ And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself.²⁸ But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, “Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.”²⁹ Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.³⁰ And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”³¹ So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.³³ And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.³⁴ Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

This is a very remarkable account. The best understanding of what took place is that their praying turned into worship and then their worship turned into singing songs of celebration unto the Lord. No wonder the prisoners were listening. And the anointing of the Holy Spirit suddenly worked the miracle. The anointing for miracles appeared through worship and

praise. It affected everyone gathered in the prison. You might be thinking that this was in a prison but what about my church. Well, there are two very commonly overlooked public worship accounts that we need to address:

- Eph. 5:15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, ¹⁶ redeeming the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God.
- Col. 3:14-17 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

The context of the above accounts is public or corporate gatherings because believers are *speaking to one another* and *teaching and admonishing* one another. And how are they doing this? It is in *singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs*. Psalms refers to the singing of God's word and hymns are songs we write about God. Although both can carry the anointing, it is spiritual songs that present the greatest avenue for the corporate anointing. Spiritual songs are those composed by the Holy Spirit. They are songs of the Spirit. Believers can be singing scripture songs or an anointed worship or praise song and suddenly songs of the Spirit begin to flow out of believers like rivers of living water. Some are singing with their understanding, and some are singing in the Spirit with heavenly language. The songs of the Spirit are uniquely aligned with heavenly singing and the supernatural presence of God. An anointing begins to flow throughout the body of Christ. Then the pastor proceeds with the scheduled order of service and the anointing subsides. Please do not do that. Throw your order of service out and go with the anointing. It is God's will. Jesus Christ builds His church with the Word and the Holy Spirit.

Another setting or avenue for the anointing to operate in the body of Christ is preaching God's word. One of our 5-Fold Global International Directors prayed for the Lord to *make our feet beautiful* in preparation for a strategic mission operation in Asia. I was reminded of what the Apostle Paul and the prophet Isaiah spoke about this:

- Rom. 10:14-17 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "*How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!*" ¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "*LORD, who has believed our report?*" ¹⁷ So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- Isa. 52:6-9 Therefore My people shall know My name; Therefore *they shall know* in that day
- That I *am* He who speaks: "Behold, *it is I.*" ⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good *things*, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" ⁸ Your watchmen shall lift up *their* voices, With their voices they shall sing together; For they shall see eye to eye When the LORD brings back Zion. ⁹ Break

forth into joy, sing together, You waste places of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem.

What does it mean to have beautiful feet in preaching and what does this say about the anointing? Interestingly, it refers to speaking a timely word of the Lord for a specific hour or season. The word Paul uses for *beautiful* is very revealing:

5611. ὠραῖος *horaios*, *ho-rah'-yos*; from 5610; belonging to the right hour or season (timely), i.e. (by implication) flourishing (beauteous (figuratively)): — beautiful.¹⁰⁵

5610. ὥρα *hora*, *ho'-rah*; apparently a primary word; an "hour" (literally or figuratively): — day, hour, instant, season, short, (even-)tide, (high) time.¹⁰⁶

The most beautiful feet and preaching is going to be that which delivers a word of the Lord at the right time and the right place. It will be the most anointed word for the people. It will flourish in the anointing of the hour or season. This is the season of the Holy Spirit. It is the hour of the anointing. The church needs a timely anointed word for every hour and season to flourish in the things of the Spirit.

- **Isa. 50:4-5** "The Lord GOD has given Me The tongue of the learned, That I should know how to speak A word in season to *him who is weary*. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear To hear as the learned. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened My ear; And I was not rebellious, Nor did I turn away.

A word in season carries the anointing for the hour. The anointing for miracles is released in gatherings where such timely words are preached. Such preaching brings forth a revival atmosphere in the body of Christ.

"Faith, a fundamental characteristic for genuine revival is not achieved by preaching about experience. It comes through hearing with revelation the Word of God. Lasting revivals are built on the solid preaching of God's Word. An unprepared revivalist is one who has failed to seek and study God's Word for fresh anointing and revelation, and depends on past success or a charismatic personality to carry the ministry. Revival preaching requires revival preparation, plowing the fallow ground of human hearts with the Word from God for the moment."¹⁰⁷

Although the anointing can occur at any time when the word is preached, a word in season will be highly charged with the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Peter learned this at the house of Cornelius.

The Word in Season

Acts 10:34-43 Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. ³⁵ But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. ³⁶ The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord

The Corporate Anointing

Acts 10:44-48 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

¹⁰⁵ Strong. 5611.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid. 5610.

¹⁰⁷ *The Revival Study Bible*, p. 1569.

of all—³⁷ that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached:³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.³⁹ And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree.⁴⁰ Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly,⁴¹ not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.⁴² And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead.⁴³ To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,⁴⁷ “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

Acts 11:15-18 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.¹⁶ Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, “John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁷ If therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?”¹⁸ When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, “Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.”

It is important to understand that Peter had already received a fresh and groundbreaking revelation on what he was to preach. As you can see from the chart it was the Word for the hour. Peter preached with faith and revelation. He doubted nothing. What he did not expect was for God to interrupt his preaching. Although preaching is very important, it is necessary to keep your preaching in proper perspective.

“Sometimes we preachers think we preach masterpieces. But people aren’t getting saved because of the preaching. It is the Holy Ghost who takes them to the cross!”¹⁰⁸

Did you notice that Peter did not keep on preaching. Instead, he cooperated with the anointing. When the anointing shows up it is time to stop preaching and minister to the people. Yield and move with the corporate anointing.

Praying is another avenue where the anointing rises upon the people who are gathered together seeking the Lord. The Upper Room was a prayer room where 120 believers prayed for ten days until the Holy Spirit fell upon them. It was a top priority of the Early Church to minister the Holy Spirit to all believers. They prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit just as they had.

- **Acts 8:14-17** Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them,¹⁵ who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.¹⁶ For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.¹⁷ Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
- **Acts 19:5-7** When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.⁷ Now the men were about twelve in all.

¹⁰⁸ Schambach. Kindle location 524.

The anointing begins to arise when the name of Jesus is magnified, and the Holy Spirit is yearned for in prayer. The new generation church must prioritize the ministry of the Holy Spirit to believers. They need to stress the importance of flowing in new tongues. Praying in tongues is one of the best avenues for operating in the anointing. It changes environments, increases faith, and welcomes the manifestation of God's power and glory into every place where God's people gather. The Spirit speaks and the anointing freely flows throughout the gathering to minister to the needs of the people. Sickness and disease depart bodies and demons cry out in this environment because the Holy Spirit is at work. Have you noticed in the Early Church how environments were altered, and cities were shaken by the anointing and power upon the church? It was because they prioritized the ministry of the Holy Spirit and operated in the anointing. We need the same priority and anointing today. In all the biblical accounts where you find this priority you also see the anointing for miracles. We need to pray in line with the priorities of God's word and pray more in tongues. Although Paul presented functional guidelines for the operation of the gift of tongues in the church, he also thanked God he prayed more in tongues than anybody else (1Cor. 14:18). He also told the church to always pray in the Spirit.

- Eph. 6:18 ... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

The above exhortation indicates that you receive an alertness and renewed strength to persevere in all situations when you pray in tongues. In addition, the anointing of a spiritual warrior arises in the body of Christ to overcome all the works of the devil. The anointing is embodied with the warrior spirit. One other example is the value of praying in the Spirit found in intercession.

- Rom. 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

The *mind of the Spirit* and the *will of God* are revealed when God's people pray in the Spirit. Heavenly counsel and fresh revelation are received during such prayer gatherings and church services. Effective church leaders will follow the operational guidelines for the operation of the spiritual gift of tongues and interpretation and at the same time will not limit praying in tongues during times of corporate worship and prayer.

We have examined in this chapter eight keys to the anointing and three major avenues where the anointing most likely appears when God's people gather in homes, churches, or crusades. Always remember this, you are a Spirit anointed and empowered instrument in the hands of God. The anointing upon your life and ministry is for others. It is God's will and plan that you operate in the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power for His glory. Many captives will be set free as you operate in the anointing. With that in mind, earnestly seek the Holy Spirit and look forward to a fresh anointing for the days that lie ahead.

CHAPTER 7: LOOKING AHEAD TO A FRESH ANOINTING

Double Portion or Full Measure

Most of us have prayed for the double portion anointing at one time or another. This was in reference to the experience of Elijah and Elisha where Elisha said, *Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me* (2Kings 2:9). The Bible records that Elisha received a double portion and performed twice the miracles in his lifetime than Elijah. This was the double portion anointing in the Old Testament. But today there is the full measure of a much greater anointing in Christ available to those who believe. How did John the Baptist know that Jesus was the Christ, the Anointed One? The Apostle John gives us special revelation into this.

- **John 1:32-34** And John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. ³³ I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, “Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”
- **John 3:34-35** For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. ³⁵ The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.

Previously, John the Baptist, had indicated that he must decrease and Jesus must increase. For this reason, God poured the Spirit upon Jesus fully or without measure. The following clearly explains what had been revealed to John the Baptist:

“Thus far the reasoning is directed to the conclusion that Jesus *ought* to increase, and that His message ought to be received. He is God’s own messenger out of heaven, and speaks God’s own words. The common explanation of the succeeding clause is that God bestows the Spirit upon Jesus in His fullness, “not by measure.” But this is to repeat what has already been more than implied. It would seem to be superfluous to say of one who comes out of heaven, who is supreme over all things, who bears witness of heavenly things which He has seen and heard, and who reveals the whole message of God to men — that God bestows upon Him the Spirit without measure. Take up, then, the chain of thought from the first clause of ver. 34, and follow it on another line. The Messenger of God speaks the words of God, and thus shows himself worthy of credence, and shows this further, *by dispensing the gift of the Spirit in full measure to His disciples.* “He giveth not the Spirit by measure.” This interpretation adds a new link to the chain of thought; a new reason why Jesus should increase, and His testimony be received; the reason, namely, that not only is He himself divinely endowed with the Spirit, but that He proves it by dispensing the Spirit in full measure.”¹⁰⁹

Do you want to decrease that Jesus may increase in your life? I know I do. Jesus has the power. It is in His hand to give His disciples the full measure of the Holy Spirit. He dispenses the full measure to His disciples. You are His disciple.

¹⁰⁹ Marvin R. Vincent. *Word Studies in the New Testament*. Accordance electronic edition, version 1.6. 4 vols. 2004.

The full measure of the Spirit includes new tongues that are like fire. The double portion anointing did not include new tongues. There are no examples of Old Testament prophets speaking in new tongues. But you get to speak in tongues with holy fire to glorify God. Jesus prophesied that this would happen along with David and the prophet Isaiah.

- Mark 16:17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;
- Isa. 28: 9-13 “Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those *just* weaned from milk? Those *just* drawn from the breasts? ¹⁰ For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.” ¹¹ For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, ¹² To whom He said, “This *is* the rest *with which* You may cause the weary to rest,” And, “This is the refreshing”; Yet they would not hear. ¹³ But the word of the LORD was to them, “Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little,” That they might go and fall backward, and be broken And snared and caught.
- Psa. 29:7 The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire.

Look closely at the verse right above. We looked at this Psalm earlier. *This Psalm was traditionally recited in synagogues on the Day of Pentecost and refers to the phenomena that occurred in Acts 2:1-4; wind and divided flames of fire.*¹¹⁰ I found it unusual that other study materials (to my knowledge) mention nothing of the sort about this verse. But let’s go deeper into what is meant by *the Lord divides the flames of fire*. The Hebrew word for *divide* makes clear what is meant from God’s perspective.

חָצַב *chatsab*, *khaw-tsab*’; or **חָצַב** *chatseb*, *khaw-tsabe*’; a primitive root ; to cut or carve (wood), stone or other material); by implication, to hew, split, square, quarry, engrave:—cut, dig, divide, grave, hew (out, -er), made, mason.¹¹¹

The Lord actually acts like a mason to dig, cut, or hew out within you the place for the flames of the Spirit. He pours the Holy Spirit on you in full measure.

What God puts in and on you must flow out. It will pour out like it has been poured upon you, in full measure. Jesus gives the full measure of the Spirit.

- John 7:37-39 On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.
- John 7:38 KJV He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.
- Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

What is God’s will for the young generation church? Double portion or Full measure? I declare by the word of the Lord this day that God’s desire, God’s plan for you is full measure. He is

¹¹⁰ *Spirit Filled Life Bible*, p. 726

¹¹¹ Strong, 672.

putting the full measure of the Holy Spirit into your bosom, your soul. It's the full measure that will run over with the same anointing that was upon Jesus, the Apostles, and the Early Church. The hour is upon us for the full measure of the Spirit. The need for the full measure is pressing upon us at every side. I believe a healing explosion is about to happen with multitudes bringing the sick and oppressed to be healed and delivered. I like what a young Ugandan leader named Manasseh recently heard by the Spirit: *I heard a mighty wave of anointing. I declare it done in Jesus' mighty name.*

- Psa. 107:20 He sent His word and healed them, And delivered *them* from their destructions.
- Isa. 58:8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
- Mal. 4:2 But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings;

Sons and Daughters of Fresh Oil

The visions of the prophet Zechariah have a remarkable connection with what is going on in our world today and in the church. His vision of the golden lampstand and the two olive trees has a special significance in regard to a fresh anointing upon the young generation church.

- Zech. 4:1-14 Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep. ² And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I said, "I am looking, and there *is* a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the *stand* seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. ³ Two olive trees *are* by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left." ⁴ So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What *are* these, my lord?" ⁵ Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." ⁶ So he answered and said to me: "This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts. ⁷ "Who *are* you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel *you shall become* a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of 'Grace, grace to it!' " ⁸ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying: ⁹ "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish *it*. Then you will know That the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. ¹⁰ For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, Which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth." ¹¹ Then I answered and said to him, "What *are* these two olive trees—at the right of the lampstand and at its left?" ¹² And I further answered and said to him, "What *are these* two olive branches that *drip* into the receptacles of the two gold pipes from which the golden *oil* drains?" ¹³ Then he answered me and said, "Do you not know what these *are*?" And I said, "No, my lord." ¹⁴ So he said, "These *are* the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

I want to share with you in bullet form what the Lord showed me about this vision and its message for the new generation church.

- The Lord is about to wake the remnant of His church up. (Zech. 4:1). The Lord is about to wake you up like you are being awakened from your sleep. He wants you to see something in the Spirit.
- The oil of anointing is coming to His church. He wants you connected with the seven pipes and the bowl where the anointing is at dripping down from the lampstand to continually light the lamps of God's presence, anointing, and power. (Zech. 4:2)

- The new generation church must stand at the right and left of the bowl where the anointing is. These are the sons and daughters of fresh oil (Zech 4:3, 11-14). You are anointed ones in Christ. He has destined you to carry the anointing.
- A fresh anointing of power is about to come upon the new generation church. You will need the Holy Spirit in full measure. You will not be able to do or sustain the work of the Lord by wealth, by personality, by virtue, or by personal strength, but only by the power of the Holy Spirit (Zech. 4:6).
- Strong opposition like a giant mountain will come against the new generation church. It will be loud and lift up itself against you. But you will level the opposition in the anointing, power, and grace of God (Zech. 4:7).
- The new generation church of sons and daughters of fresh oil will restore the apostolic and prophetic foundation of the church. The Lord has anointed them, and He has sent them for a finished work (Zech 4:8-10). It will be a new season of the anointing, of the Holy Spirit, of miracles, and of prophetic fulfillment. Small beginnings will not be despised because of the anointing. Heaven will rejoice to see the anointing upon you like a plumbline to make the way of the Lord straight again.

The church often talks about the importance of the younger generation but seldom takes steps to get them into the fire of the Spirit. However, the Lord is searching for sons and daughters of fresh oil. Remember, Zechariah asked more than once about the two olive trees and branches. God said, *These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth* (Zech. 4:14). Literally translated, these are sons of anointed oil.¹¹²

“What answer was given to his enquiry. Now again the angel obliged him expressly to own his ignorance, before he informed him (v. 13): “*Knowest thou not what these are? If thou knowest the church to be the candlestick, canst thou think the olive-trees, that supply it with oil, to be any other than the grace of God?*” But he owned he either did not fully understand it or was afraid he did not rightly understand it: *I said, No, my Lord, how should I, except some one guide me?* And then he told him (v. 14): *These are the two sons of oil* (so it is in the original), *the two anointed ones* (so we read it), rather, *the two oily ones*. That which we read (Isa. v. 1) a *very fruitful hill* is in the original *the horn of the son of oil*, a fat and fattening soil. 1. If by the candlestick we understand the visible church, particularly that of the Jews at that time, for whose comfort it was primarily intended, these *sons of oil*, that *stand before the Lord of the whole earth*, are the two great ordinances and offices of the magistracy and ministry, at that time lodged in the hands of those two great and good men Zerubbabel and Joshua. Kings and priests were anointed; this prince, this priest, were *oily ones*, endued with the gifts and graces of God’s Spirit, to qualify them for the work to which they were called. They *stood before the Lord of the whole earth*, to minister to him, and to receive direction from him; and a great influence they had upon the affairs of the church at that time. Their wisdom, courage, and zeal, were continually emptying themselves into the golden bowl, to keep the lamps burning; and, when they are gone, others shall be raised up to carry on the same work; Israel shall no longer be without prince and priest. Good magistrates and good ministers that are themselves anointed with the grace of God and *stand by the Lord of the whole earth*, as faithful adherents to his cause, contribute very much to the maintaining and advancing of religion and the shining forth of the word

¹¹² Strong, 1121. בֶּן **ben**, *bane*; from 1129; a son (as a builder of the family name), in the widest sense (of literal and figurative relationship, including grandson, subject, nation, quality or condition, etc., (like 1, 251, etc.)):+ afflicted, age, (Ahoh-) (Ammon-) (Hachmon-) (Lev-)ite, (anoint-)ed one, appointed to, (+) arrow, (Assyr-) (Babylon-) (Egypt-) (Grec-)ian, one born, bough, branch, breed, + (young) bullock, + (young) calf, x came up in, child, colt, x common, x corn, daughter, x of first, + firstborn, foal, + very fruitful, + postage, x in, + kid, + lamb, (+) man, meet, + mighty, + nephew, old, (+) people, + rebel, + robber, x servant born, x soldier, son, + spark, + steward, + stranger, x surely, them of, + tumultuous one, + valiant(-est), whelp, worthy, young (one), youth. 3323. יִתְשָׂר **yitshar**, *yits-hawr*; from 6671; oil (as producing light); figuratively, anointing:+ anointed oil. 6671. צָהָר **tsahar**, *tsaw-har*; a primitive root; to glisten; used only as denominative from 3323, to press out oil:—make oil.

of life. 2. If by the candlestick we understand the church of the first-born, of true believers, these sons of oil may be meant of Christ and the Spirit, the Redeemer and the Comforter. Christ is not only the Messiah, the *Anointed One* himself, but he is the *good olive* to his church; and *from his fulness we receive*, John i. 16. And the Holy Spirit is the *unction or anointing* which we have received, 1 John ii. 20, 27. From Christ, the *olive tree*, by the *Spirit, the olive branch*, all the golden oil of grace is communicated to believers, which keeps their lamps burning, and without a constant supply of which they would soon go out. They *stand by the Lord of the whole earth*, who is in a special manner the church's Lord; for the Son was to be sent by the Father, and so was the Holy Ghost, in the time appointed, and they stand by him ready to go."¹¹³

The sons and daughters of fresh oil will soon be ready to go. They stand beside the Lord. Their branches are in the bowl where the fresh anointing is at. They shall become flames of fire and anointing in the hands of the Lord.

The Anointed Shield of Faith

There is the need today for believers to take up anointed shields in the battle for the greater harvest that is before us. This is referring to shields of faith.

- Eph. 6:16-20 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: ¹⁸ Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; ¹⁹ And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

It is important to understand that above all in this Scripture means above everything in the whole armor of God. And this shield of faith is to be taken up and raised up. The believer must undertake the task of taking and raising up the shield. When you take up your shield of faith the Lord anoints it. It is an empowered shield. This shield has a new level of anointing. It is an anointed shield of faith that quenches (puts out, extinguishes) things. What fire does this anointed shield of faith put out? It extinguishes all the fiery darts, all the flaming evil, unclean, and wicked arrows of the devil coming against you. You cannot take on the battle with high level principalities and rulers of darkness in the world today without an anointed shield of faith.

The anointed shield of faith is anointed for warring. It is an instrument for the battlefield. It is an overcoming shield. Jesus said, *In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.* (John 16:33). And the Apostle Paul declared that *in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.* (Rom. 8:37). How do you arrive at this place of overcoming courage and more than a conqueror in Christ? You must be ready for battle. You are not prepared for warring in the Spirit without taking up the anointed shield of faith. The greater harvest before us is a battle for souls. I recall when praying online with some young, anointed warriors for Christ over a planned crusade in a remote Asian city. This is what I saw in the Spirit.

¹¹³ Matthew Henry. *Commentary on the Whole Bible (Unabridged)*. Accordance electronic edition, version 1.8. 6 vols. Altamonte Springs: OakTree Software, 2004.

“In prayer there was fire on the tongues and a warring spirit became stronger and stronger. I saw by the Spirit armies of angels warring in the heavenlies, and we were joining them in battle against the darkness over the land. I saw veils of blindness ripped away over those who are perishing without Christ and clouds of darkness were being pushed back. Then multitudes were crying out to Jesus when they heard the Gospel preached and saw the demonstrations of power to heal and set captives free. I saw this by the Spirit in every place where this intense warring was taking place. The battle for souls was so intense with violent military force in the spiritual realm. The people of Ziro will see the glorious light of the Gospel and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.”¹¹⁴

Shields of faith are being anointed by the Lord. But believers have to take it up. It cannot be left laying by your side. It is being anointed by the Lord. Keep in mind that the enemy is always ready to pounce on you like a lion in the midst of troubling times.

- **1Pet. 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.**

You need to keep your cool, stay alert, and anoint the shield for battle. What does it mean to anoint the shield? The prophet Isaiah spoke prophetically regarding the fall of Babylon at the hands of the Medes and Persians.

- **Isaiah 21:5-10 Prepare the table, Set a watchman in the tower, Eat and drink. Arise, you princes, Anoint the shield! ⁶ For thus has the Lord said to me: “Go, set a watchman, Let him declare what he sees.” ⁷ And he saw a chariot *with* a pair of horsemen, A chariot of donkeys, *and* a chariot of camels, And he listened earnestly with great care. ⁸ Then he cried, “A lion, my Lord! I stand continually on the watchtower in the daytime; I have sat at my post every night. ⁹ And look, here comes a chariot of men *with* a pair of horsemen!” Then he answered and said, “Babylon is fallen, is fallen! And all the carved images of her gods He has broken to the ground.” ¹⁰ Oh, my threshing and the grain of my floor! That which I have heard from the LORD of hosts, The God of Israel, I have declared to you.**

The above prophecy has a remarkable connection with the end time revelation of Jesus Christ where *Mystery Babylon*, the demonic center of all foul spirits and abominations of the earth falls in just one hour under the wrath of God.¹¹⁵ However, we are going to limit ourselves to the description of how a soldier anointed his shield for battle. Soldiers would rub oil on the leather of their shields so they would be agile and prepared for war. In the same

¹¹⁴ Michael Gross. *Tongues Prayer*, Revival Blessing International Ministries (RBIM), January 17, 2023.

¹¹⁵ **Rev. 14:8** And another angel followed, saying, “Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”

Rev. 17:5 And on her forehead a name *was* written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. **Rev. 18:1-4** After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. ² And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! ³ For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” ⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. ⁵ For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.”

manner, the shield of faith is anointed with the oil of the Holy Spirit. We learned from Samuel Ison in Chapter 3 that there is too much missing oil in the church today. Not enough believers are anointed with the oil of the Spirit. However, sons and daughters in Christ need to have their branches connected with the fresh oil of the Spirit. We know from Ephesians 6 that we have the shield of faith. But we must believe and take it up for the Lord to anoint it. The anointed shield of faith reminds the enemy he has nothing on you because your faith is in Jesus Christ alone. The devil knows you will stand against him with your anointed shield of faith.

Jesus responded to His disciples in four situations with these alarming words: *O ye of little faith!* Keep in mind that we are not talking about just any shield, but the shield of faith.

1. **Worry** (about your life - food, drink, clothing). Jesus says your life is more than this. ...Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Do not worry, He will take care of you.
 - Matt. 6:30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?
 - Luke 12:28 If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more *will He clothe* you, O you of little faith?
2. **Fear** (during a storm). The Lord is able to deliver you out of everything. Jesus is saying to you today, *Do not fear!*
 - Matt. 8:26 But He said to them, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?” Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.
3. **Doubting** (taking your eyes off of Jesus). Peter was distracted by the wind. The circumstances caused him to doubt the miraculous. Jesus says, *Come, join Me in doing the impossible*. Peter took his eyes off Jesus after stepping out in faith. Many believers are not stepping out in faith because they are afraid they will sink and fail.
 - Matt. 14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”
4. **Human Reasoning** (stuck in the natural). The wisdom of man still rules many believers instead of the wisdom of God. God needs Spirit minded believers today who will take up the anointed shield of faith.
 - Matt. 16:8 But Jesus, being aware of *it*, said to them, “O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread?”

In the four passages above, we have anxiety, fear, doubt, and human reasoning. All of these reveal a lack of faith. Now consider them in the reverse order. Human reasoning creates doubt. Doubt leads to fear. Fear leads to anxiety. All of this is because of a lack of faith.

- Matt. 17:20-21 So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.”²¹ However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

God has not given you a spirit of fear! Instead, he gives you power, love, and a sound mind (2Tim. 1:7). But if you take up the anointed shield of faith, you will move forward in the power of the Spirit against everything the enemy brings against you.

What kind of faith is Jesus looking for today? Contrasted with the four passages displaying little faith are accounts where great faith is displayed.

1. The woman with the issue of blood - *If I just touch His garment!*

- Matt. 9:20-22 And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment.²¹ For she said to herself, “If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.”²² But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, “Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And the woman was made well from that hour.

2. The mother with the demon possessed daughter. *I will settle for the crumbs from the Lord's table!*

- Matt. 15:25-28 Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, help me!”²⁶ But He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children's bread and throw *it* to the little dogs.”²⁷ And she said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.”²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

3. The Roman centurion - *Just say the word!*

- Matt. 8:7-10, 13 And Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.”⁸ The centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.⁹ For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this *one*, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does *it*.”¹⁰ When Jesus heard *it*, He marveled, and said to those who followed, “Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!...¹³ Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you.” And his servant was healed that same hour.

4. Peter when asked about the power or name for the miracle - *By His name!*

- Acts 3:16 And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which *comes* through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.
- Acts 4:7-10 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, “By what power or by what name have you done this?”⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel:⁹ If we this day are judged for a good deed *done* to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well,¹⁰ let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.

This is the kind of faith Jesus is looking for today. It is this faith that is needed. It is the faith that rises above and overcomes things. The anointed shield is a shield of faith, and the word of God says it is *above all*.

What would Jesus say to you about your faith today? *O ye of little faith* or *Great is your faith!* Look at the beginning and conclusion of the parable of the persistent widow.

Beginning

Luke 18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart...

Conclusion

Luke 18:8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

It is important that you pray and do not lose heart. Let these words encourage you today to take up the anointed shield of faith.

"Don't lose heart; walk by faith. God has your best interest at heart! The Psalmist says, "I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." Psalms 27:13 (NKJV). Remember, difficulties, enemies, obstacles, and problems are a normal part of everyone's life. However, what you believe can make a huge difference. You won't easily lose heart if you believe that God is faithful, that He is good, that He is for you, and that He desires to bless you. So, by faith, shift your focus away from your problems and difficulties and look to God. If you do that, then like the Psalmist, you also will be able to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Have a blessed day and always keep rejoicing in the Lord. Shalom"¹¹⁶

1. **Don't stop praying** - Don't stop praying in the Spirit! Jesus is coming soon. It will be sudden. Many are unprepared. There are too many shields of faith laying unprepared beside believers. Too many believers are missing oil in their lamps.
 2. **Be filled with the Holy Spirit!** Pray in the new tongues always! Speak the name of Jesus in every circumstance of life!
 3. **Pick up your shield of faith in Jesus' name.** The spirit of the world does not want you to take up your shield of faith. But take it up now! The Lord is anointing your shield of faith with power to overcome.
 4. **Rise up young generation.** Rise up with anointed shields of faith! Rise up and overcome the world. Rise up with anointed shields of faith for the greater harvest is before you.
- 1John 5:4-5 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
 - 1John 4:4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

¹¹⁶ Bishop Wilberforce Musoni of Rwanda. Posted January 19, 2023.

Demonstrations of Power

The anointing with the Holy Spirit is also with power. Faith increases when people hear God's word with a confirming demonstration of power. We need to have faith in God's power! The Apostle Paul understood this and so should we today.

- 1Cor. 2:1-5 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. ² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³ I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. ⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Nice sermons by eloquent speakers or electrifying personalities is not what people need. They need a demonstration of God's power. A demonstration is literally a *showing forth*.¹¹⁷ The Lord wants to exhibit His power to the world. It's as simple as that. Paul highlights the *demonstration of the Spirit and of power*. There are two important prophecies of Jesus about believers showing forth His power. Although we have looked at them before, these prophecies are foundational to the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power.

- John 14:12-14 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.
- Mark 16:17-20 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." ¹⁹ So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

The above Scriptures are not only foundational for the anointing, but also serve as the purpose driven force behind ministry. This is how the Lord wants to work with those who believe in Him. Some error by separating the signs from the sharing of God's word. But there is no such detachment according to God's word. Every believer is a potential miracle worker from God's perspective. He wants to work with you. But not all believers desire to work with Him in this way.

The Acts of the Apostles can easily be called *The Acts of the Holy Spirit* because the Apostles and the Early Church were anointed with the Holy Spirit and power to do what they did for the glory of Christ. All that they accomplished in advancing the gospel to the ends of the earth was done by the anointed power of the Holy Spirit. The book of Acts highlights the operations of the Holy Spirit through the apostles and the Early Church. Let's take a brief walk through the first 30 to 35 years of the Early Church to see *the demonstration of the Holy Spirit*

¹¹⁷ Strong. 585. ἀπόδειξις *apodeixis*, *ap-od'-ike-sis*; from 584; manifestation: – demonstration. 584. ἀποδείκνυμι *apodeiknumi*, *ap-od-ike'-noo-mee*; from 575 and 1166; to show off, i.e. exhibit; figuratively, to demonstrate, i.e. accredit: – (ap-)prove, set forth, shew.

and of power in their ministry. Pay careful attention to what characterized their ministry. What led to so many salvations in the Early Church? Consider these five points:

1. The Apostles bore witness to Jesus with anointed power. Three thousand souls were saved on Pentecost in one day. Another 5000+ sparked by the healing of one lame beggar:
 - Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.
 - Acts 3:4-8 And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." ⁵ So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and lifted *him* up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. ⁸ So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.

2. Great power and great grace were upon the Apostles:
 - Acts 4:33 And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.
 - Acts 5:12-16 And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. ¹³ Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. ¹⁴ And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

3. Deacons were anointed and worked miracles:
 - Acts 6:8, 10, 15 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people...¹⁰ And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke...¹⁵ And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel.
 - Acts 8:4-8 Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. ⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. ⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ And there was great joy in that city.

4. A disciple named Ananias was sent by the Lord to work a miracle upon Saul, the persecutor of the church:
 - Acts 9:17-19 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Immediately there fell from his eyes *something* like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.

5. God anointed their hands with power to work miracles of healing and deliverance:

- Acts 14:3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.
- Acts 15:12 Then all the multitude kept silent and listened to Barnabas and Paul declaring how many miracles and wonders God had worked through them among the Gentiles. to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.
- Acts 19:11-12 Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul,¹² so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

The above accounts clearly remind us again of *how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him* (Acts 10:38). They also reveal that miracles did not stop but continued through apostles, deacons, and disciples. In addition, did you notice the emphasis on the hands of the servants of God? There was anointing and power dispensed when they laid hands on the sick and oppressed. Anointed hands will give the devil trouble. Don't underestimate how important it is to carry the anointing in your hands. There is too much talk in the church today and not enough demonstration of power over sickness, disease, and unclean spirits. The new generation church shall rise up with great power and great grace. Their hands will be anointed with power and fire. Healing and deliverance will be in their hands. The ministry of Jesus shall continue with demonstrations of the Holy Spirit and power.

The Church on Fire

This equipping manual on the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power is designed to propel the new generation forward to experience the church of the book of Acts with the works of the Holy Spirit. The 5-Fold Global mandate is to raise up and equip a new generation to fulfill the book of Acts in the power of the Holy Spirit. I believe the Lord is raising up this new generation of leaders and believers to do church and ministry the way Jesus taught and showed His disciples. John the Baptist prophesied that Jesus *will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire* (Luke 3:16). Jesus began His ministry filled with the Holy Spirit and power. His ministry continued with the apostles and others filled with the power of the Holy Spirit in the same way. The same anointing that was upon Jesus was upon the Early Church. It was a church on fire! Who are we to think it should be any different with us today? If you desire to grow the church, then you have to receive the Holy Spirit the same way they did and minister the Spirit to others like they did. No matter what church or denomination you are a part of, no matter how you have been taught in your church doctrine, this one thing remains undeniable as recorded in the book of Acts. The baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire was a primary emphasis in the ministry of the Early Church. It was necessary to do the greater works that Jesus prophesied. We have made a strong and undeniable case for this aligned with the word of God. Therefore, a church on fire will replicate the ministry of Jesus and the Early Church. Here are three main characteristics of a church on fire as seen in the Early Church:

1. A church on fire ministers the Holy Spirit Baptism to every believer.

- Acts 8:14-17 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, ¹⁵ who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
 - Acts 19:1-2, 6-7 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit...” ⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. ⁷ Now the men were about twelve in all.
2. God works with the church that is on fire with signs, wonders, miracles, and spiritual gifts.
- Heb. 2:1-4 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. ² For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?
3. The church on fire is built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.
- 1Pet. 2:4-5 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
 - 1Pet. 2:9-10 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Each of these characteristics speak of the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power in full operation. Now let’s examine more closely the things most emphasized in the ministry of the Early Church.

Many churches hold revival meetings today with little evidence of revival fire. What does a church on fire look like? What will it emphasize? The following chart reveals the primary emphases in the ministry of the Early Church as recorded in the book of Acts:

Primary Emphasis	The Fruit
The Holy Spirit (50 times)	Signs/Wonders/Miracles (25 times)
The name of the Lord (41 times)	Increase/Growth (29 times)
The Word of God (53 times)	Boldness
Evangelism (37 times)	Power/Strength/Edification
Unity/Together (28 times)	Joy/Rejoicing
Prayer/Intercession (25 times)	Giving/Sharing/Caring
Authority of God (27 times)	

Note that the main fruit of what the Early Church emphasized in ministry was increased growth in the church and signs, wonders, and miracles. This raises questions today like what is the church doing and what is the church emphasizing? The church on fire grows because it emphasizes and moves in the anointing of the Holy Spirit and power. God wants to work with the church on fire!

You have now prayerfully absorbed a lot of important things from God's word about the anointing. It is important for you to understand as we conclude our study that you, a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, are an anointed vessel or instrument in the hands of the Lord. It is according to the power that works in you that the greater works for the greater harvest will be realized for the glory of Christ.

- Eph. 3:20-21 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Never underestimate the power of God working through you. I discovered something remarkable in the Gospel of Luke that will greatly build your confidence to step out and move with the anointing.

- Luke 5:15-17 However, the report went around concerning Him all the more; and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. ¹⁶ So He Himself *often* withdrew into the wilderness and prayed. ¹⁷ Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

Look carefully at the sentence at the end of the last verse. Ask yourself, what did Jesus bring with him when he entered the house where people gathered to hear Him? Did He not carry the anointing into that place? Two power words are used in this one sentence:

- **δύναμις *dunamis***, *doó'-nam-is*; from 1410; force (literally or figuratively); specially, miraculous power (usually by implication, a miracle itself): — ability, abundance, meaning, might(-ily, -y, -y deed), (worker of) miracle(-s), power, strength, violence, mighty (wonderful) work.¹¹⁸
- **ἰάομαι *iaomai***, *ee-ah'-om-ah-ee*; middle voice of apparently a primary verb; to cure (literally or figuratively): — heal, make whole.¹¹⁹

Jesus carried the miraculous power to cure sickness and disease. Let me quote Matthew Henry one final time:

"There he *taught*, he *healed* (as before, v. 15): *And the power of the Lord was to heal them—en eis to iasthai autous*. It was *mighty* to heal them; it was *exerted* and *put forth* to heal them..."¹²⁰

¹¹⁸ Strong. 1411.

¹¹⁹ Ibid. 2390.

¹²⁰ Matthew Henry. Luke 5:17-26, paragraph 1.

Observe in the above commentary that the power was *exerted and put forth to heal them*. The power was there because Jesus carried it. Do you approach your calling and ministry to people in such a way that *the power of the Lord is present to heal them*? Do you even consider in prayer that you carry Jesus wherever you go? And because you carry Jesus you bring into every place where people gather the power of the Lord. I speak this to you now to build your confidence so you will carry this anointing of miracle power to a lost and hurting world. I pray for you to understand this and to be an exerting influence in your generation of the anointing with the Holy Spirit and power. Step out of your comfort zone. Be vocal about the presence of the miraculous power of the Lord. When you do, the same power that went out from Him will flow out of you to the people. Too many ministers are bypassing the anointing to implement their own vision of ministry. Neither your life nor your ministry will increase without the anointing. The Lord is ready to teach you how to operate in the anointing. I conclude with several critical points from some anointed men of God.

- “The number one way to learn about the anointing is to follow the ministry of Jesus as recorded by His disciples: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.”¹²¹
- “The problem with too many Christians and ministry leaders is that they think they can do it. I have news for you: You cannot do it. Only God can! You have to surrender.”¹²²
- “It’s all His anointing and you are just the vessel. You are a container that He pours into and pours the anointing out of for His glory.”¹²³
- “The purpose of the anointing is for your life to change, for you to be empowered to win souls, cast out devils, and see people saved, healed, set free and delivered.”¹²⁴
- “Every believer is empowered by the Holy Spirit to do the works of Jesus, if they believe! The anointing is the manifest presence—the presence and power—of God, so if you have His Spirit, you have the anointing.”¹²⁵

Take these words to heart as you go forth with the strongest anointing of your life. The Lord is ready to work with you. God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power. This anointing is available to you in the fullness of the Holy Spirit. May your life and ministry going forward display the full measure of the Holy Spirit with demonstrations of His power.

¹²¹ Howard-Browne. *The Anointing* (p. 17)

¹²² Benny Hinn. *Mysteries of the Anointing* (p. 93).

¹²³ Howard-Browne, p. 72.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.* p. 99.

¹²⁵ *Ibid.* p. 164-165.

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