

The Anointing 5
The Anointing is Satisfaction from God
"Stay under your Anointing"

We assert first of all the priority of the spirit realm. Life proceeds from the spirit (Jn 6:63, 2Cor 3:6). The spirit realm is an authority realm: God is in charge (on the throne) and we submit to His will in all things. God is almighty, all-wise and all-compassionate. We seek God's will for our lives. That is, using our will (choice), we choose the will of God. God is holy and He requires us to be holy (Lev 19:2). Sin occurs when we, either through ignorance or unholiness (uncleanness), defy the will of God. To sin is to disobey God. Sin scars our soul and divides our spirit. By means of sin, Satan can exercise power within the territory of our spirit. The bondage of sin results from the inability of the soul to cleanse the spirit. Our soul (psyche) is dependent on (driven by) our spirit. Only faith in the atoning blood (sacrifice) of Jesus Christ can cleanse our spirit and break the power of sin over our soul in our life. We also need revelation as to what our sin is. This is the work of the Holy Spirit who comes to convict the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgement (Jn 16:7-11). All authority comes from God (Rom 13:1) and I must exercise the authority that I am given in the fear of God. All authority is given. When authority is taken it is really control, which may look like authority but is ultimately force and manipulation in another's interest. God does not control us. God does not kick our door down. Rather God comes in Jesus Christ, full of grace and truth (Jn 1:14), with the total power of godhead and holiness to lead us into abundant life (Jn 10:10). The anointing of God is fulfilled, for the Christian, in the anointing of the Holy Spirit. All the fullness of God is found in the Holy Spirit as in Jesus Christ (Col 1:19; 2:9). We have the mind of Christ (1Cor 2:16). The Holy Spirit is the spirit of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit witnesses to Jesus Christ (Jn 16:13-15). I need to come under the authority, ability, permission, and teaching (information) of the Holy Spirit. This is done by means of the anointing. Originally, from the tabernacle, only that which was holy (separated to God) could be anointed. Anointing the unholy cannot work and can usually mean the greater judgement on unholiness: people's situation becomes worse (Rom 1:24, 26, 28). The unholy cannot handle God and is the companion of that which defies God. Do not let us trifle with the anointing which is also the presence of God.

The Anointing as the Presence of God

God is present but hidden. This is always a problem for those that do not believe but it demonstrates the necessity of faith for the believer. In the Bible God is present as follows:

1) The Angel of the Lord: present by the Angel

Gen 32:24 Jacob wrestles with a Man till break of day

Gen 48:16 the angel who has redeemed me from all evil

Ex 14:19 the angel of the Lord goes before

Ex 23:20 I send my angel before you to keep you in the way

Ex 23:22 obey his voice and do all I speak

Ex 33:2 I will send my angel before you to drive out the people

Ps 34:7 the angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear God

Acts 12:7 the angel of the Lord stood by Peter in gaol

2) The Glory of the Lord: present by the Glory

Ex 29:33 the tabernacle shall be sanctified by My glory

Ex 40:34-38 the cloud over and the glory within the tabernacle

Ps 8 the glory of the Lord in creation

Ps 19:1-6 the heavens declare the glory of God

Ezek 9:3 the glory of the God of Israel goes up

3) The Face of God: present by the Face

Ex 33:14 my presence will go with you and give you rest

Ex 33:20 you cannot see my face and live

Ps 24:6 those who seek your face

Ps 31:16 make your face shine upon your servant

Ps 44:3 by the light of your countenance

Ps 80:3, 7, 19 cause your face to shine and we shall be saved

4) The Name of God: present by the Name

Ex 23:21 my name is in him

1Kings 11:36 the city I have chosen to put my name there

1Chron 22:10 he shall build a house for my name

2Chron 6:5, 7, 9 you did well to build a temple for my name

Mtt 18:20 2 or 3 gathered in My name there I am in their midst

Phil 2:9 the name above every name

2Thess 1:12 that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ be glorified

5) The Spirit of God: present by the Spirit

Zech 4:6 not by might nor by power but by my spirit

Is 26:9 by my spirit within me I will seek you early

Ezek 3:24 then the Spirit entered me and set me on my feet

2Cor 6:19 your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit

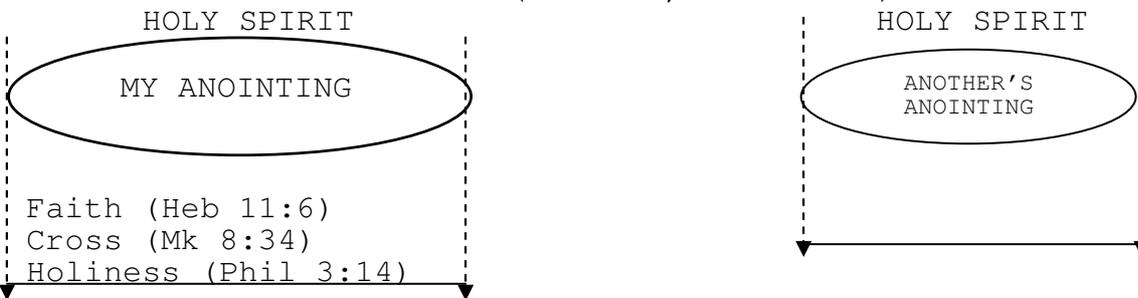
Rom 8:11 if the Holy Spirit dwells in you

Rom 8:26 the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with groans

1Cor 5:4 when you are gathered together along with my spirit

Stay under the/my Anointing

The presence of the Holy Spirit creates an anointing of which I am aware and under which I can function for godly purpose. If I use the anointing for ungodly purpose I will suffer. King Saul misused his anointing and received a distressing spirit from the Lord (1Sam 16:14). The seven sons of Sceva misused the name of Jesus and suffered the assaults of an evil spirit (Acts 19:14-17). Let us not misuse the power of God. God will not hold him guiltless who uses His name in vain (Ex 20:7, Deut 5:11).



This diagram says that I can have an anointing from the Lord by His Holy Spirit. As I obey Him and submit to His Spirit I receive permission, authority and ability to function in the spirit area that God provides. The anointing brings ministry. There God commands the blessing (Ps 133). Blessing (which is spiritual) is commanded in the spirit by means of spirit authority. All the soulish shouting in the world cannot effect spirit results. Casting out demons does not depend on mind control or human effort but upon real spirit authority. People can attempt spirit ministry by soul effort, but they have no spirit authority although they may attempt control by dress, posture or words. We have spirit authority and soul control. One can look like the other but the demons know the difference (Acts 19:16 versus Mk 5:12). I cannot arbitrarily choose where I go in the spirit realm. I am not a tourist. My ministry (spirit service) depends on what I am shown in the Holy Spirit. I may well fancy someone else's anointing (authority, ministry) but I can only really function in the spirit

territory that I am given (shown). A test is: are people ministered to by my spirit obedience? I should add that the Holy Spirit is always sovereign in any situation and He may gift us in any particular place to minister a gifting outside what is the usual pattern of our ministry. Also it seems that we can move in ministry and receive an anointing/authority in new areas as training, awareness and opportunity allow.

Staying under my Anointing

Basically the discipline is to stay under the anointing (permission, authority, ability, information) that I have received. I suggest that there are three ways that this can be done:

1) By Faith. Without faith we are not able to please God (Heb 11:6). Faith gets us off the ground. We have to believe in the possibility that faith indicates. However, like Saul, we can refuse to walk in our spirit sphere (territory, anointing). We can mock God and 'let laughter intervene'. We shrink from the spirit possibility (what God is showing us) and cling to our own soul security. Hence we defy God: 'They soon forgot His works. They did not wait for His counsel but lusted exceedingly in the wilderness and tested God in the desert. He gave them their request but sent leanness into their souls' (Ps 106:13-15). There is a profound judgement on disobedience. God can hand us over to the spirit consequences of our unbelief (Rom 1:24, 26, and 28). The Israelites could not enter the Promised Land because of their unbelief (Heb 3:18).

2) By Cross Carrying. If we are to be followers of Jesus we must deny our Self, take up our cross and follow Jesus (Mk 8:34). Our Self is what we have become in life. We have made our Self. Wrapped up in our Self are all our experiences, insights, prejudices, fears, likes and loathings. Self (our personal history as object) can be a massive monument to defy God. We can have a good self-image or a bad self-image. Either way it is an image. Images are spiritual and determine our behaviour. If there is an image in our life we cannot help but worship (obey) it. This is the source of idolatry. There are two crosses in Scripture: the Cross Jesus carried at Calvary and the cross His disciple carries. Our cross is not one of redemptive suffering because Jesus has already won our redemption. Our cross as disciples/believers is for a purpose in the kingdom of God. Our cross is different from a thorn in the flesh (2Cor 12:7-10). Our cross is something that we engage, carry, struggle with, embrace and obey. Ultimately we offer our bodies (selves) on our cross to the Father, just as Jesus did (Lk 23:46). We abandon our Self to God for His ultimate purpose and our incredible joy (Ps 16:11). The disciple must discover/choose/engage their cross lest they imperil their own soul. Move with the way God is moving you. Believe God not Self.

3) By Holiness. Holiness keeps me on the faith walk. I must press in for the goal of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Phil 3:14). Holiness will intensify my commitment.

The Anointing of the Holy Spirit will:

- 1) Guide/ bless/ reward/ enhance
- 2) Excite/ stir/ challenge/ motivate
- 3) Direct/ open doors/ close doors/ reason
- 4) Encourage/ reaffirm/ accompany/ travel
- 5) Reveal/ show/ envision/ enlighten
- 6) Explain/ teach/ fill the mind space/ supply words
- 7) Exhort/ correct/ chastise/ discipline
- 8) Guarantee/ give foretaste of the powers to come/ make certain
- 9) Reveal truth/ inspire truth/ require truth/ speak truth
- 10) Build/ equip/ empower/ authorise

Contentment and Satisfaction in God

2Cor 9:8 (literally) God is able to cause to abound all grace toward you so that always and in everything, all sufficiency may abound towards you for every good work.

This means that God covers every angle. Contentment is all sufficiency. God provides for our needs not ourselves (Mtt 6:33).

1Tim 6:6 there is great gain in godliness with contentment.

Ultimately, only God can satisfy our soul. I must seek the discipline of His provision for what He says are my needs.

John Wesley's Covenant Prayer (Covenant Service)

(For those renewing their covenant with God. Wesley explains:

'Christ has many services to be done; some are easy, others are difficult; some bring honour, others bring reproach; some are suitable to our natural inclinations and temporal interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves, in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. Yet the power to do all these things is assuredly given us in Christ, who strengthens us. We take the yoke of Christ upon us. This taking of His yoke upon us means that we are heartily content that He appoint us our place and work and that He alone be our reward.')

I am no longer my own but yours.

Put me to what you will.

Rank me with whom you will.

Put me to doing.

Put me to suffering.

Let me be employed for You, or laid aside for You,

Exalted for You or brought low for You.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. Amen