

Mount Pisgah A.M.E Church

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Bible Study, Wednesday, September 16, 2020

Series: The Holy Spirit

Review

- The Holy Spirit is an eternal part of what is known as The Trinity.
- The Holy Spirit is a PERSON, not just an impersonal force.
- You can engage the Holy Spirit as you would a friend, a guide, a counselor, or a companion.
- The Holy Spirit's work involves drawing unbelievers, and inspiring and maturing believers.
- The Holy Spirit leads disciples by God's Word and through the indwelling of The Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit molds disciples into the image of Christ.
- The Holy Spirit teaches and inspires believers to know Jesus and understand His teachings.
- The Holy Spirit empowers believers beyond their natural capacity.
- The Holy Spirit connects believers and creates community.
- The Holy Spirit assures believers of their standing in God of the benefits of that relationship.
- The Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us when we believe, but if we ask, The Spirit will *saturate* (fill) us with power to fulfill God's will.

The Holy Spirit Anoints

We hear the term "anointing" or "anointed" frequently in churches today. In what contexts have you heard people refer to "the anointing"?

In what ways have you heard of people or things referred to as "anointed"? What does the term mean to you?

The word anoint comes from the old French word *enoint*, which comes from a Latin word *inungere*, from *in* ("on") + *ungere* ("to smear"). Literally to anoint means to "to smear on", or "to rub"

The word unction also comes from *ungere*. Frequently we hear people using the word "unction"

- "The unction of the Holy Spirit was present in the service."
- The Catholics have a sacrament called "Extreme Unction." In Catholic tradition, it means final anointing. It is a ritual in which oil is applied to provide comfort and strength to the suffering, and to symbolically identify their suffering with the suffering of Christ. It is given to the seriously ill or dying.

Originally, it was thought that oil had medicinal value, so to rub oil on a wound or infection would bring healing. However anointing oil was also used to symbolize the presence of God. (Assumption: The presence of God brings relief and healing.)

Those individuals who were set apart for sacred service were “anointed” with special “anointing oil”, to symbolize their carrying with them the presence of God. There were recipes for its preparation (Exodus 30:22-25).

Special “oil” was prepared to be poured onto those who (it was hoped) bore with them the presence of God”

- Priests were anointed (Exodus 29:1a, 7) for the sacred ministry of work in the tabernacle
- Special *places* were also anointed (Exodus 30:26)
- Prophets were anointed (1 Kings 19:16, Isaiah 61:1)
- Kings were anointed by prophets (1 Samuel 15:1, 16:12)

The “oil” of God brought relief and joy (Psalms 45:7)

In the New Testament, the anointing (or the presence of God) is borne to us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the “oil” of God that brings relief and peace. The Spirit’s power IS the anointing. The Spirit IS the presence of God.

In Greek, the word is translated *chrío*, from which the word Christ comes. Jesus was the first king that came without a *physical* but a direct anointing of the Holy Ghost, and could also ANOINT others.

The anointing IS God’s supernatural power

- Isaiah 10:27 – Breaks yokes of bondage
 - Note: the word translated “anointing” (KJV) in this verse (the Hebrew word *shemen*) is also translated “fatness”, or “richness” (NIV). The rich favor of God breaks the yoke.
- James 5:14 – Brings healing
- 1 John 2:20, 27 Brings insight into God’s Word beyond human capacity
- Luke 4:18 and Isaiah 61:1 – Proclaims liberty from every kind of captivity

The anointing of God is not just for kings, priests, and prophets, or even leaders, but for EVERYONE who believes. (review 1:John 2:20)

To be anointed one must be:\

- Filled (with the Spirit) (1 Cor. 2:3,4)
- Emptied (of self): Galatians 2:20
- Yielded to The Spirit: Romans 8:12-14, Galatians 5:16

God also often uses the pain, the disappointment, and the struggles that go through and that God heals us from to increase our capacity for life giving anointing to flow through us. (John 12:24)

Our anointing comes through intimacy with God. Our sin neutralizes the anointing that God wants to exercise through us by interfering with our intimacy. (Isaiah 59:2)

Our effectiveness in ministry, and in using ministry gifts, comes from The anointing of The Holy Spirit. There is often a discernable difference when one is operating under God’s anointing.

Our constant fellowship with God The Holy Spirit gives us all that we need to be all that we need to be for God.