

Introduction:

- Text: Luke 2:8-20
 - *"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."* (Luke 2:11, NKJV) *"This is one of the most amazing statements found in the Gospels declaring the deity of Jesus Christ."* Simmons, B. (Trans.). (2017). *The Passion Translation: New Testament*. BroadStreet Publishing.
- The angel declared to the shepherds, "A Savior, who is the Anointed One has been born! And here is your sign: *"A baby lying in a feeding trough where animals were kept nearby, wrapped in strips of cloths, became a sign of the Man-Savior's life on earth. He entered the world as a lowly baby, and though he is the mighty God, he lived his life on earth in gentleness before all. The shepherds that night were possibly near Bethlehem at Migdal Eder, "the [watch] tower of the flock." This would fulfill both the prophecies of Mic. 5:2 and Mic. 4:8, which say, "to you it [he] will come, your dominion [kingdom] from old will arrive." It was at the lower floor of the watchtower (Migdal Eder) that the birthing of the Passover lambs would take place. Selected ewes that were about to give birth would be brought there. After the birth of the lambs, the priestly shepherds would wrap the lambs in cloth and lay them in a manger lined with soft hay to prevent them from hurting themselves, for Passover lambs must be unblemished with no bruise or broken bone. The miracle sign for these priestly shepherds would be a baby boy lying where the Passover lamb should be—in a manger, wrapped in strips of cloth. It was at the cradle of Jesus Christ that the kingdom from ancient times arrived on earth. Simmons, B. (Trans.). (2017). *Passion Translation*. BroadStreet Publishing.*
- The arrival of this Kingdom was not for us to have trees, lots of sugar, and gift exchanges (though I like all that stuff) It was for the destruction of sin, death, hell and the grave!
- Our journey through the Word today will take us to: The Anointing, The Anointed, and The Anointed Ones.

I. The Anointing The Anointed One??? If Jesus is the Anointed One, what does that mean?

A. What is the anointing? What does it mean to be anointed?

1. The OT and NT words mean to smear or to rub with oil.
 - a) Shepherds anointed their sheep with oil to keep the flies off of them. Because of the wool sheep could only be bitten the face and ears. So shepherds smeared oil on their faces to keep biting flies off,
 - b) Jesus referred to Satan as lord of the flies.
 - c) Flies represent the demonic. Annoying, painful, dirty, unclean flies etc. The anointing keeps these pest away! Flies were one of the plague released upon Egypt by Moses.
2. If a person was anointed they had been smeared with oil. IE. We typically are polite about it and put a little bit of oil on our hands or fingers and smear it on your forehead.
3. It was symbolic of the presence of God. The Holy Spirit. So when we speak about being anointed we are talking about being smeared with the Holy Spirit! We are talking about

being smeared with the awesome Presence of the God!!! In Jesus case, when you are God you are the Anointing!

- B. What was the purpose of the anointing.
1. It was typical to anoint Kings. It was part of the act of enthronement. And it was the most distinctive act done to an individual to make them king. "Anointing by God implies authorization and a specific commission whereby the king now represents the people."

Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). TDNT (p. 1323). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.

 - a) Prophets typically anointed kings. 1 Samuel 10:1 Samuel the prophet anointed Saul king by pouring a flask of oil over his head.
 - b) Samuel anointed David to be king by pouring a horn of oil over his head. Horns in scripture speak of strength and authority. see also 2 Sam 23:1 "David a man anointed by God".
 2. It was typical to anoint Priests.
 - a) Moses anoints Aaron and his sons. Ex 28:41 Mostly to inaugurate ministry.
 - b) "*Then he said to me, "They represent the two anointed ones who stand in the court of the Lord of all the earth."*" (Zechariah 4:14, NLT) Hebrew literally reads "sons of fresh oil". Anointed King and an Anointed Priest
 - c) Jesus is called our Great High Priest Heb 4:14. He was anointed by God. Ps 92.; 89:20 Acts 10:38
 - d) The anointing of Kings and Priest - was for purpose of rule.
 3. It was to anoint the sick -
 - a) "*Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord.*" (James 5:14, NLT)
 - b) "*And they cast out many demons and healed many sick people, anointing them with olive oil.*" (Mark 6:13, NLT)
 4. It was to destroy yokes of bondage. "*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.*" (Isaiah 10:27, NKJV)

II. The Anointed One

- A. The angel said to the shepherds: "*For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*" (Luke 2:11, NKJV) The Christ is born! The Anointed One is born. This anointed one is Jesus! The Anointed One is in our world!
1. The Christ - *christós* means "smeared on," "anointed," and as a noun (*tó christón*) "ointment." Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). TDNT (p. 1322). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.
 2. "*who was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary the mother of Jesus, who is called "the Anointed One (Christos)."*" (Matthew 1:16, TPT) The word Christ is used 554 times in the NLT. You can insert the word anointed one in most places that "Christ" is used.
- B. Jesus is our anointed High Priest Ps 92:10. Anointed like that of wild ox!
- C. The Anointed One was sent to destroy the bondage of sin, darkness, disease, destruction.
1. Isaiah prophesied the coming Messiah - "*The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me, for the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the*

brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed." (Isaiah 61:1, NLT) Luke repeats this in Luke 4:18-ff. He is taking back territory! The anointing takes back territory!

2. God anointed Jesus to undo works of darkness. *"And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."* (Acts 10:38, NLT)
 3. *"The reason the Son of God was made manifest (visible) was **to undo (destroy, loosen, and dissolve) the works the devil [has done].**"* Amplified Bible.
- D. The Presence of the Living God/Jesus is to bring us life!
1. Jesus came to 'drain the swamp!' Stamp out darkness, crush the serpents head.
 2. Good news for poor, captives freed, blind see, oppressed freed, God's favor is with men!
 3. This was Jesus mission. He is called the Christ, The Anointed One, The Messiah because He is so anointed no obstacle of darkness can stand in His way...not sin, death, hell or grave! The anointing destroys the yoke of bondage!

III. The Anointed Ones

- A. If any man be in Christ he has become an anointed one! If Jesus is the Anointed, and He is, then if we are in Him we are now anointed ones too!
1. Our call is to release the anointing of Christ on the earth, to all people!
 2. Our call is to be as passionate as Christ about preaching the Gospel, setting captives free, healing the sick and freeing the oppressed.
- B. We are anointed ones. How do we know? The Bible tells me so!
1. *"But the Holy One has anointed you and you all know the truth."* (1 John 2:20, TPT)
 2. *"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."* (1 John 2:27, NKJV)
 3. *"It is God who enables us, along with you, to stand firm for Christ. He has commissioned/ anointed us,"* (2 Corinthians 1:21, NLT) xprisas - Chrisas - anoint.
 4. It can be said of us: *"And you know that God anointed Freedom Christian Center with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then they went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."* (Acts 10:38, NLT)
- C. What do anointed ones do? Ps 89:20-ff Seven truths about the anointing:
1. The anointing strengthens you. vs 21 *with my powerful arm I will make him strong.* NLT
 2. The anointing keeps the enemy from afflicting us. vs 22 The wicked will not afflict/over power/humble him
 3. The anointing causes our adversaries to be beat down. vs. 23 under my feet
 4. The anointing establishes your authority. vs. 24
 5. The anointing increases your influence. vs. 25
 6. The anointing causes God's mercy to dwell with us. vs.28. Also Ps 23 mercy and goodness...
 7. The anointing cause our seed to endure forever.

- D. Grow your anointing
 - 1. Anointing grows out of relationship with God.
 - 2. Fast - not to earn the presence but spend time in the Presence
 - 3. Worship - attracts the Presence
 - 4. Release the Anointing in service to others.
- E. God wants anointed ones all over the earth!

Conclusion:

- You were meant to be an anointed vessel!
- Starts with a relationship with Christ.
- Extends into a daily walk with Jesus.