

THE ANOINTING – THE CHRISTIAN’S GPS

1 John 2:18-27

The Gathering Place

October 7, 2007 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

On Wednesday, the voters of Ontario will ANOINT a Premier for our Province. Will it be Frank DeJong, Guiseppe Gori, Howard Hampton, Dalton McGuinty or John Tory.

Here is the important thing for us to do – elect the person who best represents the values and principles that we believe are important. We have no right to find fault or criticize those in political office if we don’t exercise our responsibility to get out and vote. This year there are two matters to be voted on ... who will represent us? And will we or will we not change the system by which we select our Members of Parliament. PRAY and then VOTE!

One of the uses of the word “ANOINTED” is to select or choose. And so in that sense the electorate will anoint someone Premier on Wednesday

READ THE TEXT

The term ANOINTED OR ANOINTING is used in 1 John 2:18-27 four times, but John uses a different application of this word than simply the act of selecting someone for special service.

He uses it in the sense that there is something given by God to a believer that equips them for living in this world as ambassadors of Jesus “the anointed One”.

The Greek word used by John and translated “anointing” is “chrisma”. The verb form of the word is used in Acts 4:27 The occasion is a prayer in a house church and the person leading in prayer makes reference to “**Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed.**” It is also used by Paul in 2 Corinthians 1:21 where he writes about Christians – “**He anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.**”

The Word “anoint” in classical Greek means to “smear” or “spread” or “rub over”. The term Christ in the name of our Lord comes from this Greek Word. Literally when we say Jesus Christ we are really saying Jesus, the Anointed One.

So What is the Anointing?

Well, it is not what most people think when they quote the King James translation of Isaiah 10:27. You have heard it many times as the “*anointing breaks the yoke*”. Well here is what the accurate translation of the Hebrew is – “***the yoke will be broken because you have grown so fat***”.

I really don’t think many of us want that kind of ANOINTING!

Most people don’t even know what they are talking about when they refer to the ANOINTING. I have asked people – what is the anointing? Oh, they say, You’ll know when you get it.

That’s exactly what John was concerned about with the New Testament Christians he was writing to. They had people – people he labels as “antichrists” who were telling them that they needed this mystical experience called the “anointing” so they could know the real truth. So many people are not satisfied to be mere Christians, they want to be special Christians, a cut above the ordinary run of the mill Christian! It is absolutely carnal. Jesus taught His followers that if you are going to have ambition as one of His followers, the goal to shoot for is SERVANT OF ALL!

These false teachers, antichrists, were trying really opposed to Jesus. The new truth they were preaching was that faith in Jesus was not sufficient for their salvation. In verse 22 of our text he writes: ***who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ (Anointed One - my insertion). Such a man is antichrist—he***

denies the Father and the Son. No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

ILLUSTRATION

A preacher by the name of [Don Carpenter](#) tells of having a professor at Bible college who taught us about the danger of blaspheming God's Son by claiming that He is anything less than God.

He told how for some the earth opened, for some fire fell from Heaven, and for some floods came.

He told us that he had one response when false cults come to proclaim their heresy. "I have just paid off my house and enjoy it very much. If you are going to continue to spout evil doctrine that will anger the God of the universe, at least get off of my porch!"

Jesus is the Christ – Video – Evidence

John would say that as believers we have something even more powerful than fulfilled prophecy to go to with respect to our conviction that Jesus is THE CHRIST.

Verse 20 – *You have an anointing from the Holy One.*

If you are a believer this morning I want you to say with me I HAVE AN ANOINTING FROM THE HOLY ONE!

No where in the Bible is "the Anointing" something to be sought for. It is something given by God as He wills. In the Old Testament "the Anointing" was given on occasion to a select few people who God commissioned for special service. They were given special powers to carry out the mission to which they were assigned. Usually, they were people like kings or priests.

BUT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, the Anointing is never used as something only a few experience. Instead the New Testament describes "the Anointing" as something every believer experiences when they experience NEW BIRTH.

And that is because of the fact that believers are royalty, they are priests 1 Peter 2:9 says, ***But you are a chosen people a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God***

One of the big problems we have in the church today is preachers and teachers who use the Old Testament experience of God's people to describe a New Testament relationship with God. So we have people telling us we need to get in the "river". Or we need "fire from heaven", or we need "the anointing" or some other manifestation of God's presence, and then we'll really know God and His power. The Old Testament is the powerful Word of God, and it reveals God and His will, but it does not describe a New Covenant life with God. It describes the life of believers before Jesus came, before the Holy Spirit was poured out on all flesh.

God has done a NEW THING for us through Christ. He has given us the same Anointing as was on Jesus. The ANOINTING is the Holy Spirit!

Acts 10:38 ***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.***

The New Living translation of Scripture says it plainly:

1 John 2:20 ***the Holy One has given you his Spirit,***

1 John 2:27 ***you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true. For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.***

I had the opportunity to take a certain person's brand new Honda Accord out for a little spin on Friday.

Beautiful! And right in the middle of the dash was a little screen with a map on it that told me exactly where I was on Squires Beach Road. In fact, if I put in the information about what address I wanted to go anywhere in North America, it would have audibly told me where I needed to turn and how far I had to go to get to my

destination. It's called a GPS. And you know what with one of those things operating you can never get lost! You always know where you are and that you are on the right road.

The Holy Spirit is our onboard heavenly GPS! He tells us the absolute truth about everything we need to know about life and godliness. WE HAVE THE ANOINTING ... say it, I HAVE THE ANOINTING!

Now here's the problem. We don't pay attention to our "onboard GPS".

Or worse yet we turn HIM OFF!

ILLUSTRATION

One of Max Lucado's books tells the story of a lady who had a small house on the seashore of Ireland at the turn of the century. She was quite wealthy but also quite frugal. The people were surprised, then, when she decided to be among the first to have electricity in her home.

Several weeks after the installation, a meter reader appeared at her door. He asked if her electricity was working well, and she assured him it was. "I'm wondering if you can explain something to me," he said. "Your meter shows scarcely any usage. Are you using your power?"

"Certainly," she answered. "Each evening when the sun sets, I turn on my lights just long enough to light my candles; then I turn them off."

She had the power but did not use it. Her house was connected but not changed.

We so easily make the same mistake? We're saved but our hearts remain unchanged

We are trusting Christ for salvation but resisting transformation.

We occasionally flip the switch, but most of the time we settle for shadows.

Jesus said to His followers: *you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.* (Acts 1:8)

Because of the ANOINTING every one of us has the potential to be powerfully used of God to proclaim His truth, heal the sick, cast out demons, and do the works of God.

Mark 16:17 Jesus says, *These signs shall accompany those who believe ...*

Jesus said to His followers according to John 14:12 *I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father*

Some of you are living lives that wonderfully illustrate the ANOINTING! People are coming to Christ, people are being healed, set free, miracles are happening, and you are excited about what God is doing in your life.

Others of us are wondering what all the excitement is about, we're living in despair, and despondency. There's little joy in our life, we're critical and bitter. We're always looking for someone to do something for us, some new thing that will provide the excitement in our life.

Here are some of the ways in which we switch off the heavenly GPS or as the Scripture says, Quench or grieve the Spirit of God.

Unbelief – we don't really believe the Spirit can do what the Bible says He can do in us and through us.

Disobedience – SIN!

Out of sorts with the family or at least some members of the family of God.

1 John 2:24

So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. ²⁵ And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us