



### Week 3 – Anointed

We have been looking at various aspects of baptism the last couple weeks. Today let's consider the role of the Holy Spirit as a part of our faith and our baptism in Jesus. I can safely say this will raise as many questions as it answers, but it is always profitable to explore the nature of our God.

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Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 What events took place in the Old Testament with Israel that Paul is referring to? What was the spiritual drink? The spiritual food? Who does Paul say those miraculous events really represented?

What is the significance to you of the word "spiritual" applied to their food and drink. Wasn't it real food and drink? What do you think Paul intends by saying it was spiritual, and applying it to the New Covenant now?

Read 2 Corinthians 1:20-22

Paul goes further in carrying the old into the new. What the first half of verse 20 means for us today. Try and cover as much of "all" as you can, be specific.

Now read verse 21 again. We heard on Sunday that God anointed Jesus. Who else has He anointed? Who is it we are anointed with?

What is one thing Paul emphasizes here is true because of that?

This anointing actually has a lot of outcomes. People were anointed to be considered qualified, to hold an office, to have authority, and to be empowered to carry out their duties.



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This anointing actually has a lot of outcomes. People were anointed to be considered qualified, to hold an office, to have authority, and to be empowered to carry out their duties.

Let's consider how our anointing can be seen in that way:

Read 2 Thess. 2:13 and Titus 3:5. According to these texts what took place to qualify us to hold an office in God's kingdom. Who did this qualifying?

Read 1 Peter 2:9. What office does Peter say every believer holds, now that we are qualified? What is the implication of this truth?

Read Ephesian 4:7-13 What other offices has Jesus given to us to fill? Why do those offices need to be filled? What is their (our) purpose? What office listed here do you find yourself most often performing or drawn towards. What do you feel equipped for? Discuss how these offices are meant to function in the church and where you fit.

Read Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8 How are we expected to be able to perform the duties of the office we are anointed for? How does the Spirit specifically conform us to be able to perform these official duties properly? (Galatians 5:22)

Read Romans 12:6-8. In addition to anointing us to an office and conforming us to execute the office graciously, the Spirit gives gifts as well. Discuss the interaction of spiritual gifts and spiritual offices in the church. Which gifts do you find yourself using most often? (consider 1 Corinthians 12:8-11 as well)

Reflection:

These are just a sampling of the verses that describe for us the result of our anointing by the spirit that comes by faith. I have found most often in my own life a failure to open myself to the full measure of the Spirit's work by believing the specific promises of God.

Of all the things the Spirit is wanting to do in your life, where do you resist the most?

Considering the gifts, the offices, the power, the works of the Holy Spirit in the whole body of Christ, what do you see is most lacking in our church today? what can you do to bring more of that aspect of the Spirit into the church? Into your own life?

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