

Introduction:

- This morning I want to look at another important person in the Kingdom and how He fits into God's plan. I want to look at the Holy Spirit and the Kingdom of God. How does Holy Spirit relate to Kingdom and what is His purpose in it.
- We know that the Holy Spirit was sent by the Father to accomplish a mission just as the Son was sent by the Father to accomplish a mission. (To anoint the body/bride!)
- "Jesus sent out the twelve with these instructions: **"Go and announce to them that the Kingdom of Heaven is near."** (Matthew 10:7, NLT)
- The Kingdom of heaven is at hand does not mean that our eternal dilemma is solved. It means there is a present reality that is so close you can reach it. It means that the strongholds of darkness are now under attack...everywhere in the earth!!!
- IE. I had a dream a few weeks ago that I have been sharing. In the dream I am clothed in white lying on my side and watching as a pair of hands are smearing oil all over me. When I awoke I heard the Lord say, "I am anointing my body." It is an experience that God intends the body of Christ to have.
- Christ (anointed One) vs. Anti-christ. Anointing vs. anti-anointing.
- ***God anoints us to destroy darkness.*** This is what the devil fears: He fears you getting anointed! When you are anointed the Kingdom advances!

I. Stop The Anointing! This is what the devil is after.

- A. The spirit of the anti-christ: attempts to get believers to reject anything having to do with Holy Spirit's anointing. That is why he is called the anti-christ... anti-anointed. He will lie to you. He will pressure you. He will mis-inform you. He will make you fearful. Anything he can do to stop you from being anointed by the Holy Spirit he will do it.
- B. His goal is to make you reject the anointing (Holy Spirit.)
 1. We often reject what we cannot control. Ie. Children, you can't control your parents decisions on things... therefore you rebel. You are rejecting their leadership. Ie. If it is something we are fearful of we will reject it, example: praying in tongues.
 2. When we reject the the anointing we reduce the Gospel to a mere intellectual message. It become a message with no power because it is bases solely on reason/intellect.
 3. When this happens "faith goes out the window." It is replaced by reason. Reasoning will not make you righteous. Reasoning will not heal you. Reasoning will not allow you to move in the grace of God.
 4. We become religious when we leave the realm of faith and rest in intellect.

- a) Jesus made a scary statement regarding this to the Pharisees: *"You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!"* (John 5:39, NLT)
- b) The Bible should always lead us to a deeper relationship/(experience) with Jesus.
- 5. Religion exalts concepts and knowledge and rejects personal experience. IE. Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth all were christian schools at one time. Now they are intellectual centers. The devil is doing all he can to stop you from being anointed. Therefore...

II. Get The Anointing!

- A. God wants all his children walking in the anointing! Romans 8:9 and 1 Peter 1:11 speak of the Spirit of Christ. They are speaking of the Holy Spirit but they let us know that Christ, the anointed One, it is His Spirit that fills us. He is the One who gives us life.
 - 1. So the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Anointed One given to us.
 - 2. To be anointed is to have the presence of the Living God in you and on you!
 - 3. Who wants more????!!!
- B. We love the presence of the Spirit of Christ here at FCC. To have the presence of God means we live beyond mere reasoning. To have the presence is to experience God! I want more of His presence. I want to overflow with God. I want to be led by His presence.
 - 1. Obedience is the expression of faith. "Being led by the Presence."
 - 2. This makes following God somewhat unpredictable. You never know what He is going to do or when!
 - 3. The more pronounced the presence of God is on a life or on a people the more unique the manifestations of our God encounters.
 - a) Past encounters: Nazarene days: tears of conviction. Tears of Joy. Running in the Spirit around the church. That was new to me, then.
 - b) Dreams and pictures in the day.
 - c) Falling out in the Spirit. Benny Hinn.
 - d) Laughter in 1995. Who would have dreamed that God would move that way?
 - e) Jesus and the blind: spit and mud in ones guys eyes, laid hands on another, yet sent others on their way to priest. Unpredictable!
 - 4. It is difficult for most people to follow the Holy Spirit because we are so limited in our experience with Him.
 - a) Most know him only as the One who convicts of sin or comforts when we are in trouble.

- b) We are familiar with the basic manifestation of tears, sometimes peace, maybe joy. But, for the most part, we do not recognize just Him.
- C. Often he gets rejected or ignored because He shows up in a way that he never had before.
 - 1. We don't understand it, (reasoning) therefore we reject it or ignore it.
 - 2. ***This is the attitude of the church today: "I am uncomfortable with that, it must not be from God." The result of that thinking is that we poison hearts with our fears.
 - 3. And where there once was hunger for God there is now only fear of deception.
 - 4. This is the goal of the anti-christ: that we would embrace Jesus with out relationship, and without anointing. (Most religions embrace Jesus but not in a personal relationship-but as teacher, prophet.)
 - 5. But ***every time we follow Holy Spirit we rub the anointing right in the face of the anti christ. The one who oppose God and God's people. You want to strike back at the devil and make him pay? GET ANOINTED!

III. Walk In The Anointing

- A. The Holy Spirit qualifies us for ministry.
 - 1. In the OT it was the anointing of the Holy Spirit that qualified a priest to minister.
 - 2. Jesus by His example demonstrated the same in the NT.
 - a) He too was anointed. *"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)
 - b) *"You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."* (Hebrews 1:9, NKJV)
 - 3. The early church lived/thrived under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
 - a) *"Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God,"* (2 Corinthians 1:21, NKJV)
 - b) *"But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things."* (1 John 2:20, NKJV) also vs 27.
 - c) *"And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability."* (Acts 2:4, NLT)
- B. The Assignment from God: Demonstrate the Kingdom by Destroying Darkness
 - 1. The assignment:
 - a) Teaching Preaching healing Mt. 4:3; Mt 9:35
 - b) Jesus sent the 12 and 72 to preach and heal Luke and Matthew

- c) Paul - *"For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power."* (1 Corinthians 4:20, NKJV)
 - (1) Kingdom is not in Logos (words) it is in dunamis (power!)
 - (2) This is the mission of heaven, it is what God is after, to fill the earth with heavens realities!
- 2. The Goal: two fold
 - a) Demonstrate the Kingdom - God is here! Reveal Father's heart!
 - b) Destroy the darkness - take back what the enemy stole. *"...But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil."* (1 John 3:8, NLT) NKJV *For this reason the Son of God came...*
 - c) The life of Jesus demonstrated both of these things! *"The supernatural interventions of God were done to reveal the extravagant heart of the Father for people. Every miracle is revelation of His nature. And in that revelation is embedded an invitation for relationship."* Bill Johnson

Conclusion:

- The devil fears you getting free!
- The devil fears you getting anointed!
- Both are what God wants you to have: Freedom and anointing!