

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
SAUL'S ANOINTING
1 SAMUEL 10:1

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Introduction

In Chapter 8 we saw that Israel wanted a king:

- 1) Because they rejected the LORD.
- 2) Because of pride.

In Chapter 9 we saw that God used circumstances to bring about His will!

In Chapter 10 and verse 1 we see the private ceremony of Samuel anointing Saul to be King! (Vs 1)

Samuel was being obedient to the Word he had received from the LORD as recorded in 1 Samuel 9:15-17.

What happened to Saul's head with this vial of oil being poured on it was simply a picture of what God would do in him spiritually. He was being set apart to be the King of Israel! Also, the gifts and graces needed to fulfill the office of king were being poured out on him by God's Holy Spirit, specifically equipping him here to be king over Israel! The oil on the head was only a symbol or an outward representation of the work God would do in and through Saul! (Mention briefly other anointings.)

Now, understand that the **ministry and work of the Holy Spirit as it relates to Israel in the Old Testament** is somewhat different than **the ministry and work of the Holy Spirit in the Church today**. If we don't understand the difference we will most likely come away with false ideas leading to false doctrine.

In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit did not come to permanently indwell people, but rather would come on individuals to accomplish certain things. (e.g. In the book of the Judges we read that the Spirit of the LORD came upon some of the judges to deliver Israel out of the hands of their enemies: Othniel in *Judges 3:9-10*; Gideon in *Judges 6:34*; Jephthah in *Judges 11:29*; Samson in *Judges 13:24*—“*And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times...*”)

It is the reason why David wrote in his prayer in Psalm 51:10-12 after his sin: *Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. 12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.*

Today, we who are saved, have the permanent indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit of God to help us just as Jesus promised!

John 14:16-17 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

So, as you look in the Old Testament and see the Spirit of God anointing people for some reason or coming upon people and then later leaving them, don't be confused!

Saul was **ANOINTED** to be King of Israel! With that, God's gracious **PROVISION** was poured out to him! God's **WISDOM and STRENGTH** were available to him! However, we need to understand that Saul still **needed to be SUBMITTED TO and RESPONSIVE TO that anointing that was upon him in order for him to be the kind of king the LORD desired!**

Early on that was the case in his life as King. But later on that was not the case and we will see that it had a devastating effect on his life and on his rule as King!

Application: (What would the LORD have us to take from this?)

Though there is a difference in the Spirit coming upon us and coming upon His people in the Old Testament, there are some things I believe that are similar that we can learn from and that can help us!

Let's talk about **OUR ANOINTING** for a little bit!

We need to understand that as believers under the New Covenant in this dispensation of the Church, we also have an anointing:

1 John 2:20 "But ye have an unction [anointing] from the Holy One..."

Though **our anointing is different in many ways**, there are **some things we can understand about an anointing in general!**

In the N.T., the words “*sanctify*”, “*holy*”, and “*saint*” all come from the same basic Greek words . They mean “*to be set apart for special service.*”

In the New Testament sense, **OUR ANOINTING** has the idea of **BEING SET APART BY** and **GIFTED BY** the Holy Spirit to carry out that **anointing that we have been given!**

But listen, just as **Saul's anointing** was something he had to **SUBMIT TO** and **BE RESPONSIVE TO**, so also is **OUR ANOINTING!**

**I. I THINK THE LORD WOULD HAVE US TO UNDERSTAND OUR POSITIONAL SANCTIFICATION:
This has to do with GOD'S SANCTIFICATION OF US!**

It Is A Fact That Every Believer Has Been Eternally Anointed And Sanctified By God At The Moment Of Salvation!

(We Have Been Set Apart For His Special Purposes For Us—To Be Conformed Into The Very Image Of Christ! And That Purpose Will Ultimately Be Fulfilled When Get To Heaven!)

So, **positionally speaking**, we are **already set apart in Christ!** We have been brought from the power of the devil into the family of God! From the devil's kingdom into Christ's kingdom! From the old creation in Adam into the new creation in Christ!

This sanctification is an eternal reality, and is based upon the new spiritual position the believer has **IN CHRIST!**

e.g. Paul said that the Corinthians believers, who we know were far from sinless, were **SAINTS** and were said to have been **SANCTIFIED!** *1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that **are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:***

II. I THINK THE LORD WOULD HAVE US TO UNDERSTAND OUR PRACTICAL SANCTIFICATION:

Though positionally speaking **WE ARE SANCTIFIED ETERNALLY BY CHRIST AND IN CHRIST**, we must **SANCTIFY OURSELVES** unto Him to fulfill His will for us on a **day by day basis while we are on this earth!**

Our **PRESENT SANCTIFICATION** or **PRACTICAL SANCTIFICATION** is the **process** by which the Holy Spirit **gradually changes the believer's life** to give victory over sin! It is the process that brings us more and more into the image of Christ! We might call it **Christian growth, putting away sin and putting on Christ or godliness!** It is an ongoing process until we get to heaven!

Think about this for a minute:

- A. It Is A Fact That The LORD God Is Holy And Calls For Us Believers To Be Holy!** *1 Peter 1:15-16 15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*
- B. It Is A Fact That The LORD God Has A Purpose— His Purpose For Our Lives!** *1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:*
- C. It Is A Fact That The LORD God Has Anointed Us—Empowered Us And Gifted Us Through His Holy Spirit To Fulfill His Purpose For Our Lives!**
- D. Just As Saul Needed To Be SUBMITTED TO and RESPONSIVE TO That Anointing That Was Upon Him In Order For Him To Be The Kind Of King The LORD Desired For Israel, We Must Also Be SUBMITTED TO and RESPONSIVE TO The Anointing Upon Us If We Are Going To Live Lives Pleasing To The LORD And Fulfill His Present Purposes In Our Lives As Those In Christ!**