

The Anointing
April 18, 2010

Turn to **Luke 4:16**. Jesus has been baptized, and He is launching His ministry. **"So He came to Nazareth where He had been brought up, and as His custom was."** What was His custom? Going to church! The Son of God, the Savior of the world, felt the need to go to church. **"And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read."**

Verse 17: "And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah, and when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written." Verse 18: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me." I may anoint you, but if HE doesn't anoint you, my anointing means nothing. **"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind."**

If you go to **Isaiah 61** where Jesus is quoting from, you won't see recovery of sight, because no one in the Old Testament ever healed anybody of blindness. Only Jesus healed the blind. **"To set at liberty those who are oppressed." Verse 19: "To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."** That's the year of jubilee. That was the year when debts were removed.

Now turn to **Acts 10:38**. Luke also wrote the Book of Acts, so this goes along with **Luke 4**. **"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power."** Why would the Son of God need to be anointed? It's because He was human. He was God, but He was a man, and His humanity had to be anointed in order to do the work that God had called Him to do.

"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

God wants to transfer something into your life that you desperately need in order to fulfill what God has called you to do. There is a repositioning in the Kingdom. It scares some people, but it is a natural repositioning. For instance, there is a generation of great men of God that are passing away.

Whether you liked him or not, Oral Roberts was a great man of God. He has passed

from the scene. Billy Graham will very soon pass from the scene, but the mantle, the anointing, is transferred when one is getting ready to go and another one is getting ready to come on. It's amazing how God works that out.

What is the anointing? **(1) The anointing of God is the impartation (the giving) of God's grace (unmerited).** Salvation is unmerited. The gifts of the Spirit are unmerited. God doesn't give you or me anything because we deserve it. What He imparts to us, He does it because of His grace. Hallelujah for His grace! So, **the anointing of God is the impartation of God's grace, ability, and power of the Holy Spirit upon our lives to do what God has called us to do.**

There is no use to putting high-octane fuel into a vehicle that isn't going anywhere, and if you're not going to rise up and do what God has called you to do, you don't need the transfer of anything. Most people are just sitting on the premises instead of standing on the promises.

(2) The anointing is the principle and the foundation for doing the work of our Lord. You cannot do God's work without the anointing of the Holy Spirit. It's impossible. If you do anything in the Kingdom (preach, sing, teach) without God's anointing on you, you are doing it in the flesh, and the flesh profits nothing.

(3) The anointing is the unction (the energy) from the Holy Spirit to equip and to empower every saint for the ministry which He has ordained for us. You are asked to do something and say you can't do that. That's a great revelation, because if YOU could do it, He wouldn't call you to do it. God calls you to do that which you can't do, because you will have to have His equipment and His power in order to do it.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit gives you and me the equipment, and it empowers every saint of God for the ministry which we have all been called to. Individually you have been called to do something. God didn't save you to sit. He saved you to get into the ministry He called you to, and the individual anointing combines with the collective anointing of the entire church; and when there are gaps, the church is weakened.

(4) The anointing gives the special, supernatural ability to fulfill God's call on our lives. It's a supernatural ability. I used to have an introverted personality, but God's anointing takes you out of yourself.

(5) The anointing of the Holy Spirit enables every Christian to do what they cannot do in their own strength. The moment we start doing it using our own strength, we will

fail.

(6) The anointing of the Holy Spirit is holy, and it must always be treated with respect. Psalm 105:15 says that the anointing of the Holy Spirit is sacred. "Do not touch My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm."

I know preachers that use that as a club on their church. It's the anointing that is to be respected. Then you respect that which He anoints by not touching the anointed ones. That doesn't mean if they get into sin that you don't go to them and rebuke them. It means the anointing on them is to always be respected because it's holy.

When churches throw God's men out, they don't understand the damage they have done to curse that house of worship. If we could go from church to church, you would find desolation because they cursed the man of God that was in their church. The anointing is always to be respected. Don't ever loose your tongue on one of God's men. It's serious.

There was a group that made fun of Elijah. They laughed at him and mocked him. They were young, and she bears came out of the woods and devoured them. The anointing is always to be respected.

What is the anointing? When God's presence and God's power comes on the scene, the anointing is released. When the anointing is released, **(7) burdens are lifted and yokes of bondage are destroyed.** Many times you are carrying a burden, but you don't know what that burden is. That is why you need to be around the anointing. Your burden gets lighter.

The anointing is the tangible power and presence of God on and in His chosen vessels. That is His church. 1 John says that you have an anointing in you. Is anybody saved in the house? Then you have an anointing in you. That means you can get in church, and all of a sudden the anointing is manifested. God is everywhere, but He manifests His presence in only a few places.

We walk by faith, but there are times I sense God. Sinners can sense God. Sinners can get in a house and feel conviction because of the anointing that is in the house. Most times, sinners know when there is a fake in the pulpit; but they also know when the real is around too. So, when the anointing is released through the power and the presence of God, it becomes tangible. It's like electricity in the air, and you can sense it.

This anointing is transferable. I'm going to give you some examples from the Old Testament and the New Testament, and then we're going to demonstrate the transference of the anointing.

Moses was God's deliverer in the Old Testament. He was called of God out of the wilderness, the desert; and the Bible says Moses was a prophet like no other prophet. He spoke face to face with God. The assignment of getting the children of Israel out of Egypt and into the promised land was overwhelming.

In **Numbers 11:17**, God tells Moses, **"Then I will."** God is the One who does the transferring. We are the conduit. God is the source of the power. **"Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Holy Spirit (the anointing) that is upon you and will put the same (anointing) upon them (70 men)."**

I know this is hard for some of you to accept, but you can also put a spirit that is on you on other people, and it is not the Spirit of God. You can transfer anger, rage, darkness, evil. That is why the Bible says not to suddenly lay your hands on anyone, and don't let just anyone lay their hands on you. You can transfer something other than the anointing. It's a serious thing when there is a transfer going on.

The spirit that was on Moses is now going to be transferred, and that doesn't mean Moses is going to be empty. No, no! Moses is still going to have his anointing, but that anointing is going to be transferred through him to those 70 men so the ministry Moses had been called to could be more effective.

If you are going to be in a ministry, if you are going to be under a man's spiritual authority, you will have to realize that the anointing that is on that man will affect YOU.

In **Numbers 27**, Moses is getting ready to go home. He is getting ready to close his part of the ministry down, and there is going to be a transfer to the next person in line. His name was Joshua. Joshua was being mentored by Moses. He not only was Moses' armor bearer, but he was Moses' guard.

We have only one area on our bodies that isn't covered. We have a helmet, a shield, a breastplate, our loins are girded, and our feet are shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, but there is one area that is not protected. That is why we have to cover each other's backs!

In **Numbers 27:23**, Moses was instructed by God to lay his hands on his replacement (which was Joshua). Moses laid his hands on Joshua and commissioned Joshua as the Lord has instructed Moses. **"And Moses laid his hands on him (Joshua) and inaugurated him, just as the Lord commanded by the hand of Moses,"** and the result of that transfer is described in detail in **Deuteronomy 34:9**.

When Moses laid his hands on Joshua, the result of the transfer was this. **"Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom."** Where did he get that? **"For Moses had laid his hands on him,"** and it was transferred. Wow!

People think preachers are a dime a dozen. Get rid of one and get another one. No they are not a dime a dozen. We have lost respect for the men of God; thus, there isn't much being transferred. If one ministry or preacher falls, people lose respect for all of them.

You have to remember something about this transfer. You cannot give out something you don't already possess. In order to transfer money from a savings account to a checking account, you have to have money in the savings account. AMEN?

In **Acts 3**, Peter and John are going into the temple through the Gate called Beautiful, and sitting at the gate is a man who has been laid there every day, and he is begging. It says in **Verse 4** that Peter and John see him, they stop, and Peter says, **"Look at us;"** and **Verse 5** says this man looked **"expecting to receive something from them."**

Then in **Verse 6**, Peter says, **"Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."** Again, you cannot transfer anything to anybody if you don't, first of all, have it! You can speak the name of Jesus all day long, but if you don't have the anointing that connects you to that name, through the blood of Jesus, it is not going to work.

Jesus' name is not a magic charm. His name is above every name which the saints have the privilege of being connected to by the blood.

Then Peter reached down and grabbed the man and lifted him up, and a healing anointing was released that was in Peter. There was such an anointing on Peter that it could be transferred as he walked by people and his shadow hit them. Read the Bible! His shadow was so anointed that it would transfer a healing anointing as he passed by.

In **Acts 19:12**, there was such an anointing on Paul that people took handkerchiefs or

napkins off him, sent them out, and people were healed. What kind of transfer is that? Peter didn't charge people for his shadow to touch them. Paul didn't charge people for his anointing. Preachers today are selling 7x7 pieces of cloth that have been touched by 7 preachers for \$7. How could you charge people for something you are giving out that you didn't pay for? Preachers are merchandising the gospel!

In **1 Kings 19:16**, God tells Elijah to go and transfer his anointing onto Elisha. Elisha is going to replace Elijah. How many know we are all going to be replaced? In the Old Testament, the mantle was the sign of the anointing. So, when God told Elijah to anoint Elisha, you and I think he is going to put some oil on him; but Elijah walks by Elisha and throws his mantle on him.

When that mantle hit Elisha, that anointing is momentarily transferred to such an extent that Elisha felt it. He sensed it so greatly that he was willing to leave his dad and mom, the farm, the business. He kills the yoke of oxen, breaks the plow, starts a fire with the wood, cooks the oxen, and look at what Elisha does after he does all that in **Verse 21**. **"Then he arose and followed Elijah and became his servant."**

Today, when people see someone helping the man of God, they call him a "brown nose." I say, shame on you! You do not know of what you speak. I followed a man of God all over the world by the name of Rev. Loren Helm. I can't tell you how many times I borrowed money in order to get on a plane to travel with him and to be with him in meetings. He was a great man of God.

One particular time I was getting ready to be with him, and before I left WV, the Lord had given me one word. That word was "transfer." There was no explanation, just that one word. I tell you today that I believe something was transferred. I'm not a copy of Brother Helm, but I believe my mentor transferred something into my life.

In **2 Kings 2**, Elijah is getting ready to be taken to Heaven. Elisha is still with him. They go into a town, and Elijah tells Elisha to stay there and that he is going to go on, but Elisha wouldn't leave him. Elisha sensed that the man of God was leaving. In **Verse 8**, they get to the Jordan River, Elijah took off his mantle, rolled it up, struck the water and it separated, and Elijah and Elisha crossed over on dry ground.

Look at **Verse 9**. Finally after all those years of serving him, Elijah asks Elisha, **"What do you want?"** Without hesitation, Elisha said, **"Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."** Remember now, you can't give what you don't have.

In **Verse 10**, Elijah says, "You have asked a hard thing." But then he said, "Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you." What that meant was Elisha had to be with Elijah when he was taken. Your exposure to a man or a woman of God is the key for a transfer. Just then the fiery chariots of God swept down, picked up Elijah, and he was gone.

As Elijah goes up, his mantle fell to the ground. If there had not been a servant there who was with him, Elijah's mantle would not have been transferred. It wasn't just cloth. It was the anointing of the office. In **Verse 14**, Elisha picked up the mantle, walked to the Jordan River and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" Elisha knew where Elijah was, but the 50 prophets on the other side of the river didn't know where Elijah was. Elisha knew where the God of Elijah was. He was with Elisha!

So Elisha puts on the mantle, and a young man named Gehazi came along who was to be his servant, but he failed. He failed because of greed. When Elisha died in 2 Kings 13, he had no servant with him. They dug a hole and dropped him down in it. As a matter of fact, the mantle was still with him because no one had picked it up. He had performed 13 miracles when he died, and the mantle was still wrapped around his bones.

The Philistines are now invading Israel, and one soldier is mortally wounded. Their wounded buddy dies along the trip. So as these two men are getting ready to bury him, they see the enemy. So they roll his dead body down in a hole and take off. This dead soldier's body rolled down in that hole and touched the bones of Elisha. I believe he touched the mantle of Elisha, the anointing that was still on his dead body, and the young soldier that was dead comes back to life (2 Kings 13:21).

Oh to God that there had been someone to have picked up that mantle; but according to the Bible, no one succeeded Elisha's ministry, because no one picked up his mantle.

Let's go to the New Testament. Jesus transfers His anointing to His disciples in **Matthew 10:1**. "And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of diseases." They go from town to town and do that.

Look at **Luke 10:1**. Jesus transfers His anointing to 70 people. **Verse 17** says, "Then the seventy returned with joy saying, 'Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.'" That means the anointing that was on Jesus was now on them.

When Saul, who became Paul, got saved on the Damascus road, God took his sight. Paul

goes into a city, and God calls a man to go and lay his hands on Paul. Paul's sight is restored (an anointing is transferred), and he rises up.

In **2 Timothy 1:6**, Paul reminds this young preacher boy to **"stir up the gifts of God (the gifts of the Spirit)."** Does anyone believe in them? I do! He said, **"Which is in you through the laying on of my hands."** So there is an anointing transfer that releases gifts into people.

Acts 19:11 says, **"Now God worked unusual (special) miracles by the hands of Paul."** It wasn't his hands. It was the anointing on him.

In **Mark 16:17** it says, **"And these signs will follow those who believe."** It doesn't say you have to be a prophet, apostle, evangelist, or teacher. It says, **"These signs will follow believers."** Believers are those that are saved who believe in His life, His death, the cross, and in His resurrection.

The last part of **Verse 18** says, **"They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."** There will be a transfer. The word "recover" is a key word. Recover doesn't mean they will be instantly healed. It says they will recover.

Be careful that you don't always go to the familiar for a transfer. The little one that you think is nothing is power-packed, and you'll miss it because you continually go to the familiar. Don't miss a transfer by overlooking that one that you may think isn't much.