

## Anointed by God

What is anointing? What does it mean to be anointed? We often hear the phrase that God does not look for our ability but for our availability. When we avail ourselves to Him, He puts into us His ability to do His work. The impartation of His ability (faith, grace, glory) into our lives to do His work is called 'the anointing'. Hebrew word "Messiah" and the Greek word "chrio" are translated to "anoint" which means "to rub with oil" and by implication "to consecrate for religious service and for overcoming life". Oil is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. Anointing means a consecratory gift (to be) anointed, ie. special endowment of the Holy Spirit. Anointed - usually a consecrated person (as a king, priest, or saint); the Christ: the anointed one, the Messiah.(Isa.45:1) Christian or messianic means "little anointed ones". Christian denotes one being a follower/disciple of Christ, or Christ-like. The anointing consecrates and set apart for holy use by God to do specific mission. It makes you strong!(1Co.1:22-31) Anoint describes the procedure of rubbing usually with oil, for the purpose of healing, setting apart. In simple terms, anointing is the presence of the Holy Spirit being marked upon someone. It is overflowing life of Jesus which imparts supernatural strength enabling an individual to perform a special task he is called and appointed to. *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*(PHI4:13)

All through the Bible we read about God calling and anointing people to do his work signify God's blessing. A person was anointed for a special purpose—to be a king, to be a prophet, to be a priest, etc. Aaron and his sons were anointed to the priesthood.(Exo.30:30;Lev.8:12) Moses had an anointing of God's Spirit upon him.(Num.1:17) Joshua had the anointing imparted upon him through laying on of hands.(Deu.34:9) David was anointed to be king.(1Sam16:13) Another meaning for the word anointed is "chosen one." Jesus was anointed to manifest His Messiahship.The Bible says that Jesus Christ was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit to spread the Good News and free those who have been held captive by sin.(Luk4:18-19;Acts 10:38) After Christ left the earth, He gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Joh.14:16) Now all Christians are anointed, chosen for a specific purpose in furthering God's Kingdom. *But you have been anointed[unction] by the Holy One, and you all know the Truth.*(1John 2:20) It is only God who can anoint a person for a specific purpose to do His will. Anointing then is a symbolic of blessing, protection, and empowerment.

Bible reveals that God expects every one He uses to receive of His anointing whether the work is that of a workman like Bezaleel, a deacon's ministry or an apostle in the church.(Exo.31:2,3;Act.6:3) *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him.*(1Pe2:9;Rev5:10) On the other hand, every work done by men without the anointing has been rejected by God. Saul, who was anointed only as a king, was rejected by God when he offered the burnt offering because he was not anointed as a priest.(1Sa13)

*Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.*(2Co.1:21-22) There are 19 references to anointing in the New Testament which includes anointing the sick, the spiritual anointing that was on Jesus and the spiritual anointing that is on Christians. The main purpose of Christian's anointing is to help us to know God better. Revelation 3:18 refer to spiritual insight. *and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.* In 1Cor 2:10-12 show us that the Holy Spirit takes the things of God and reveals them to Christians so they can understand what a wonderful salvation they have. The anointing helps us to see what we have received in Jesus. The anointing opens our eyes that we may see which brings knowledge. (Mat.25:29) If we are not learning the things of God for ourselves and finding that more and more is being given to us then we are backsliding and in danger of judgement. The love of the world had made blind to the things of God. They needed a new anointing of their spiritual eyes if they were to understand even basic spiritual truths. Let's go get some eye salve from Jesus to open our spiritual eyes! And ask to show you how to walk and live in the anointing you have received.The anointing opens our eyes to the amazing goodness and immense power of God. Therefor the depths of the knowledge of God, the fruit of the anointing will be best found by those who diligently pursue it in faith.

All Christians, every born-again, spirit-filled child of God have been given an anointing from God so that we may know the things that are of God. This anointing teaches us all things and is responsible for opening our spiritual eyes. The anointing of the Holy Spirit is a gift from God. Jesus answered and said to her, *"If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water* (JOH4:10) The anointing is the river of life that flows from the throne of God through your heart and penetrates other people's hearts. He flows as a river of love, from the throne of grace, through the hearts of believers, bringing life to all that receive His touch. There is great pleasure and joy in the anointing, because it is the presence of God. People are anointed for blessing, and to accomplish teaching of renewable minds. Bible teaches that the anointing empowers, enlightens, mediates, corrects, facilitates, enriches, heals, and transforms. The anointing is given to open blind eyes. (2Co.4:3-4; read John 9) Disregarding the anointing out of a preference for the things of the world is dangerous trap that leads to spiritual blindness and rejection by God. If we have headed in this direction we need to quickly repent. Apostle Paul sees prayer as a vital weapon in developing our spiritual insight and applying the eye salve so that we can see the things of God most clearly. *the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,*(Eph.1:17-20;Heb.6:4-6)

### **The Anointing is precious and holy**

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The anointing that God puts on His servants is such a precious that God expects consecration from His vessel before He puts it upon them. Aaron was told that the anointing he received was so holy that he could not leave the tabernacle for seven days or he would die, when a sad event happened in his family, he was not even allowed to cry!(Lev.8:33-35;10:6) The anointing is holy! Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, died because they offered strange fire.(Lev.10:1,9) It had something to do with their drunken conduct because immediately after that God warned Aaron and his sons not to drink wine. *"And Aaron and his sons you shall bring unto the door of the Tabernacle of the congregation ... then you shall take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him. And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister unto Me in the priest's office"*(Exo29:4,7;30:30) Under the law, the anointing was the ceremony by which the priests were installed in their service. They were anointed to their office with a peculiar ointment, called the "holy anointing oil". Three classes were anointed with the Holy Anointing Oil - prophets, priests and kings.(Isa.16:3,13) The classic example of the anointing of a prophet is Elisha, who received a double portion of Elijah's spirit(anointing) when he was parted from him in a chariot of fire. Elisha received power to work miracles through the anointing upon his life.(2 Ki.2:9,14) Daniel received supernatural understanding and wisdom through the anointing upon his life.(Dan.5:11) Jesus began His miracle ministry after receiving anointing upon His life.(Acts 10:38) Jesus is God's Anointed One, the Christ Our Savior, Prophet, Priest and King who fulfills all three functions! He is the prophet like unto Moses. He is the promised son of David, King of Israel. He is a High Priest for the ages according to the Order of Melchizedek. If we would honor God, we must do it by the anointing. This simply means that if we would fulfill the will of God and the ministry of God, we must do it by the Holy Spirit. We must be a man filled with the Spirit, an olive tree, a son of oil. Unless you are anointed, you will never stand and speak with authority in the name of Jesus, or do the works of God. It has to do with authority by the presence of God in our lives. The mediator of the New Covenant is Jesus, so when you read of all that Moses performed on behalf of the Levitical priests, put Jesus in Moses' place and you will receive understanding of what Jesus is doing in our lives to bring us to the Melchizedek Priesthood. And it is Jesus, High priest who anoints the priests of the New Covenant! The anointing of Royal Priesthood was first upon Christ the Head, and from Him to the members of His body.(ACT2:33)

We learn that the Almighty God is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working and wisdom cometh from the Lord of Hosts.(Isa.28:29) Moses did not employ wisdom of Egypt, but received formula from the Lord who is revealer of secrets. *Make these into a sacred anointing oil, a fragrant blend, the work of a perfumer. It will be the holy anointing oil.*(Exo.30:22-30) Bezaleel and Aholiab and every wise-hearted man in whom the Lord had put wisdom, understanding, given the ability to perform all manner of work to build the Tabernacle with all its furnishings, to make the priest's garments for beauty and glory, to compound the incense for use on the altars and the anointing oil for the priests. *And the Lord spoke unto Moses, saying, See, I have called by name Bezaleel and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship.*(Exo.31:1-6,10-11) Equipment as well as methods and ingredients had to conform to God's standards. Those privileged ones who would be anointed therewith would be holy, dedicated to the service of the Lord, priests of the Most High God! The meaning of unction is smoothness, oiliness also the thought of fragrance. This represents nature and characteristics of those who come under this anointing-holiness, gentleness, patience, goodness, knowledge, wisdom, joy, peace, kindness, power, love! What a sweet pure perfume does this anointing of the Holy Spirit of God bring with it to all who receive it! It partakes of the sweetening and purifying influence of the treasure of the new heart, the new mind, the new will, the new spirit, the new man within, anointed with the Holy Spirit and brought into harmony with the divine nature. All the perfume in the Holy Anointing Oil pointed to the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Mary of Bethany who sat at the feet of the Lord, and she it was who broke the alabaster box to pour the fragrant ointment upon His head and feet; and when her ointment was outpoured upon Him, the whole house and all that was therein basked in the fragrance of the Christ's anointing. And Jesus said, *"She did what she could; she bath anointed My body beforehand to prepare for My burial.*(Mar.14:8)

In Leviticus 14 we read of blood and oil being used for the cleansing of lepers. A lamb must slain as a sin offering. Leprosy is a dreaded disease which slowly consumes the flesh of its victim. The toes, fingers, and other body parts eventually rot and fall off. Leprosy would slowly eat away his physical body and he would die. In the Bible, God uses natural examples to illustrate spiritual truths. Leprosy is used as an example of sin. Just as leprosy destroys physical body, sin will destroy you spiritually and it will destroy your ministry. God gave specific instructions for cleansing of a person with leprosy a symbolic of the cleansing you must experience spiritually. We see how the oil is poured out after the blood, and that it must be applied to the same place the blood was. This is symbolic of the sinner's need of cleansing through the blood of Christ, and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The Anointing Of Oil: This is symbolic of the work of the Holy Spirit in your life. Note that the oil was to be placed on the ear, thumb, and toe of the leper.Applying this to leadership, "leper's anointing" we must experience a similar spiritual anointing of the Ear: To be able to hear God's voice. The Hand: To be able to serve Him. The Toe: To walk in proper relationship with Him.

God promised Israelites that a Messiah would come to deliver them from sin. New Testament speaks of Jesus Christ, which literally means "Jesus the Anointed One." The phrase "Yeshua ha meschiach," means the anointed one. Christ (Christos) in Greek word means anointed. For thirty years Jesus lived a righteous life pleasing God. When the time was ripe for the manifestation of His messiahship, He went through water baptism. It was as He came up out of the waters that God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove and remaining upon Him.(Joh.1:32) *Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee.*(Luke 4:1,14)

*How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.*(Act10:38) Jesus Christ carried out His ministry through the anointing of the Holy Spirit and led by the Spirit. It was after this anointing of power that miracles happening through Jesus' ministry. It took the anointing to destroy the works of the devil.(Isa.10:27;1Joh.3:8) Jesus declared: *"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 broken hearted, To preach deliverance to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord*(Luk.4:18-19) And He began to say to them, *Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."* quoting verses from Isaiah 61:1. In Jesus Christ, the plan of God to deliver mankind is fulfilled. The works of Jesus – His teaching, healing and deliverance ministries – were the result of the anointing. The anointing upon our Lord Jesus Christ enabled Him to do the works He did! Knowing that His ministry had come to a completion, Jesus promised His disciples that whoever believes in Him will do the works He did, and greater works.(Joh.14:12) Now if Jesus did all His works by the anointing, then we would need the same anointing that was upon Jesus to be upon us to do the works He did. And even as Jesus was anointed for ministry, the Father has established us "in Christ and anointed us."(2Cor.1:21) We receive the same Holy Spirit by believing in the anointed one and His Gospel.(Eph.1:13) He is the head of the church and we are connected to him as the body by his Spirit. Everyone who is born again is part of the body of Christ and shares the same anointing. The Spirit lives in us, comes upon us for service, and we are able to influence others lives by his working. We as His followers are "to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in our inner man"(Eph 3:16) We are anointed to share the life of Christ, gospel with others so they have an opportunity to come into His kingdom. Philemon 1:6 says *"that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus."* We must continually seek to follow Messiah's example of ministry, "redeeming the time, for the days are evil."(Eph 5:16-)

The main key to doing both the works of Jesus and greater works is in learning the secret of union with Jesus Christ. Lord Jesus Christ said that all the works He did were done by the Father in Him. Note how He emphasized His union with the Father. He said that it was not Him but the Father in Him who did the works. All he had to do was to keep abiding in the Father and let the Father abide in Him, and obey all that Father in Him told Him to do. Jesus operated the anointing upon His life through union with the Father. He then said that he who believes in Him will do the works He did and greater works than these because He was going to the Father(Joh.14:12), and His going to the Father was to send us the Holy Spirit to abide in us forever.(Joh.14:16,17) Therefore, the secret of our doing works of Jesus and greater works is for each believer to walk with Him, like Him, and in Him, that Jesus in us through the Holy Spirit can work out will of our Heavenly Father. *Therefore, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness.*(Ps.45:7)

The promise of doing works of Jesus is available to each believer to exercise according to the depth of their personal walk and faith in Jesus. The anointing of the Holy Spirit is given through people to demonstrate God's love and power. God has anointed certain people to leadership positions in Church and has provided the anointing of power to equip them to fulfill their callings. In the tabernacle, Aaron the high priest, and the sons of Aaron wore special garments. The garments had a number of purposes such as identification but primarily they suited the priest to minister unto the Lord. *And I(God) will raise me up a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind;... and he will minister before my anointed for ever.* (ISA2:35) The anointing for leadership comes from God. Amos was a herdsman and crop gatherer. But when God anointed him, he became a prophet.(AMO7:14-15) Anointing is not based on outward appearance. It is based on the attitude of the heart.(ISA16:6-7) The anointing is given to leaders to enable them to fulfill God's purposes. The anointing gives the wisdom to lead others.(IJO 2:27) It is the anointing which destroys spiritual yokes which bind the men and women to which you minister. Bible indicates there are three types of yokes: There is the yoke of sin.(LEV26:13) There is the yoke which keeps people in bondage to flesh or self, which is the old sin nature.(ROM7:15) There is yoke of man which is bondage put on you by other people. This yoke can include guilt, tradition, or impossible standards of behavior which are imposed by others.(MAT23:4-5) *It shall come to pass in that day that his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, and his yoke from your neck, and the yoke [satanic bondage] will be destroyed because of the anointing.*(ISA10:27) God anoints people for specific positions or callings in ministry.(NUM18:8) If you are anointed by God you can expect opposition from Satan and his forces, ungodly men because it is anointed ministry which accomplishes God's purposes.(PSA2:2;105:15) *"Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm.*

## Christian anointing

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The believer's anointing is primary anointing. By this anointing all other manifestations of the anointing are judged *But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and not a lie, and just as it has taught you,* (1Jo2: 27)

We received a measure of the Holy Spirit upon our lives when we were born again. And when the Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples, saying "*Receive the Holy Spirit,*" He was saying, in effect, that He was God who first breathed into Adam's nostrils the breath of life and now He was imparting to them spiritual life again, creating them a new. (JOH20:22; GEN2:7; 1CO15:45) "*The first man Adam became a living being.*" *The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.* When we were baptized in the Holy Spirit, subsequently we received the 'baptismal' measure of the Holy Spirit. (Act.1:4-8) The Bible speaks of measures of the Spirit. God told Moses that He would take the Spirit that was upon him and put the same anointing upon the seventy elders. Here is an example of a man having a great anointing of the Holy Spirit, and a part of the power being taken from him by the Lord, to be divided and used to anoint seventy others. (Joh3:34)

The anointing we operate in is proportional to our faith level. *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;* (Rom.12:6;1:17) A man full of faith is also full of power and anointing. (Act6:5,8;11:24) The reason the disciples could not tap on the anointing Jesus gave them to cast out a devil was because of their lack of faith. (Mat.10:1) We are not to remain at the faith level of the born again experience all of our Christian lives. When faith increases, the believer's anointing can be increased.

The operation of anointing is also related to the operation of grace. (Rom.12:6) We all received a salvation measure of grace when we were born again. (Eph.2:8) Paul was anointed according to grace. (Eph.3:7) The apostles perceived the anointing upon Paul's life, which they referred to as the grace of God. (Gal.2:8-9) The grace of God and the anointing of God are directly related. Grace can be multiplied and increased through the knowledge of Jesus Christ (2Pet1:2) We can grow in grace. (2Pet.3:18) When we grow in grace we grow in the anointing of God. We are to grow from grace to grace. (Joh.1:16) If we are not to remain at the grace level we receive at conversion, then we are also not to remain at the anointing level of our born again experience. Grace would produce a growth in the anointing.

The glory of God and the anointing of God are directly related. When the anointing of God fills a place, the glory of God as a cloud is sometimes manifested. (Exo.40:34;2Chr.5:14) In fact it is the glory of God that causes people to fall under the power of the Holy Spirit. An increase in glory in our lives would definitely produce an increase in the anointing. Now if we are exhorted to grow from glory to glory, and since growing in glory produces growth in the anointing, then we should realize that we can grow in the anointing. (2Cor.3:18;Eph.3:16) Paul prayed for believers to be strengthened with might in their spirits according to riches of His glory. ie an increase in the anointing within.

Anointing works within the believer producing the Christlike character and all the fruit of the Spirit. (Gal.5:22,23) All God's leading of His people is through the inward witness, the anointing within. The inward witness is spiritual sensation in our spirit man telling us whether something is right or wrong. This capacity to perceive rightness or wrongness is a working of the believer's anointing. Develop the anointing within and learn all the tangible spiritual sensations of the spirit man. It is a mark of spiritual maturity to have our spiritual senses trained to discern right and wrong. (Heb.5:14) God desires for us to grow spiritually, He has given us all we need to experience spiritual growth. With the Holy Spirit's help, we can overcome sin and steadily become more like Christ. *The Lord is their strength, And He is the saving refuge of His anointed.* (Ps.28:8) The sanctification is the separation from the world. We are made holy by the process and act of sanctification by the Holy Spirit. This sanctification gives us the right to say we are children of God, citizens of the Kingdom of God. And sanctification involves the anointing or consecration for a specific ministry task. We all have a purpose and we begin the task of fulfilling it. It was God's anointing that gave David the power and the ability to take giant Goliath down. God anoint you with His divine power for any kind of adverse situation that may come our way in this life. "*Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you*" (LUK10:19) Once you feel God's strength, courage, and boldness start to flow through you, you could be just like God did with King David as we walk according to the inner anointing of the Spirit, we will know God's will and be acquainted with God's work.

The believer's anointing is the most important anointing of all. All other anointings are built about and around this anointing. Let us now see what the believer's anointing can do. Five signs which follow all believers: 1. Casting out demons 2. Speaking in new tongues 3. Authority over serpents when preaching the gospel 4. Immunity to poison when we are preaching the gospel 5. Recovery of the sick through laying on of hands. (Mar.16:17,18) Anointing of power will be demonstrated in greater measures. We will pray with greater boldness over sicknesses and speak with greater authority over demons. The glory of God is the manifest presence of God, there is greater demonstration of anointing and power. (Luk.5:17) Faith can grow exceedingly. (2Th1:3) The grace of God not only includes salvation grace but also relates to ministry gifts. (Rom12:6;Gal2:9) Ministry gifts come by anointing upon our lives. (Exo35:31; 1Sam16:3,13) Therefore, if we grow in faith, grace and glory we will definitely grow in the anointing upon our lives.

### **The Ministerial Anointing**

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*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.*(Eph4:11) Our Lord Jesus Christ functioned in all five offices when He was upon the earth. Jesus flowed in all five anointings when He ministered. One of the reasons why there hasn't been a ministry like Jesus' today is because very few men are called to function in all five offices. The decision to function in an office is not men's but God's. No one can just decide by himself or herself what they want to function in. The purpose of human ordination is merely to recognize what God has already appointed and chosen. For that reason apostles had to fast and pray to seek God's will before appointing elders.(Acts14:23) Jesus Himself spent the whole night in prayer seeking God's will before appointing the twelve apostles.(Luke6:12,13) The apostle Paul recognizes that the apostleship that he and Peter received were due to God's choice and God's grace.(Gal.1:15) Bible states that 'He gave'(Eph.4:11) God 'appointed'(1Cor.12:28)

Having recognized that it is God's choice as to the offices we are to function in, we need to understand that we have a responsibility on our part to grow in and develop within the set callings of God. God sets our limits when He places His call upon our lives. He draws the circumference of His calling around us and requires us to develop and grow within the circumference. Philip was called to be an evangelist but he started as a deacon. Before he was a deacon, he was an 'officeless' but faithful Christian. In the end, when the church was asked to choose men filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom from among themselves, they identified Philip and placed him as one of the seven deacons. Having become an appointed deacon, his ministry grew until later he was recognized as Philip the evangelist.(Acts 8)

God will place you in the hearts of the right people to help you be established. And to those who are established be faithful and be a good steward. We are all accountable for the lives we have, the money we receive, the offices we hold. Paul was faithful as a nobody and God placed him on Barnabas' heart when Barnabas was sent to Antioch. Paul who had been prophesied over by Ananias that he will be bearing Jesus' name to Gentiles, kings, Jews, finally enters first phase in his ministry as a teacher, then evangelist. It took years before Paul entered into apostolic ministry. God does His part by choosing; we do our part by responding and developing. Be faithful, Let God promote you.

It is also necessary to distinguish between a call and a burden. A burden comes forth out of a vision of a need whereas a call comes forth out of God's Will. All calls have burdens but not all burdens have calls involved. It is wrong for a person to enter the fulltime ministry out of a burden or need. To enter into the ministry fulltime, one needs a call from God. Many people enter the ministry merely out of a burden or need but do not have an anointing upon – an unction to function – in the ministry office. It is dangerous to move out of the Will of God. It is dangerous to function without an anointing. It becomes mere human knowledge and power; it is the religious flesh manifested.

We need also to discern the times and seasons of God in relation to the call. If you have a call to the ministry in a particular office, don't function in it until the anointing comes upon you to do so. Until the anointing comes, you should train, develop and prepare for the ministerial anointing to come upon you. Elisha was called to be a prophet but he did not function as a prophet until Elijah's mantle came upon him; a symbol of the ministerial anointing coming upon him. There is a preparation time required to equip us for the ministerial anointing to come upon us. Elisha prepared himself by serving Elijah for about ten years. The final test was in keeping close watch on Elijah. The anointing upon is costly. It will cost your life. God demands that you consecrate your time, talents, money – everything to His call. He demands that you demonstrate this consecration consistently in season and out of season. This position of consecration must be maintained through trials, temptations, live or die. When He is satisfied that you are ready to give all your life to do His Will and perform His call, then the ministerial anointing come upon you.

*be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;*(2Pe1:10)

The ministerial anointing can be developed within boundaries of God's will and God's call. In order to be developed in the ministerial anointing, we must understand that God has designed phases in each of our lives. The phase is a training ground for new spiritual weapons and operations that God is teaching us. It is where we kill the lions and the bears before the Goliaths. David tested his sling and stick as a shepherd boy. David was about to enter a new phase of his life at that point. Notice his conquest of Goliath and entering into a higher phase in his life and ministry depended on his faithfulness. It was prophesied that David would be king, but he only became king over all Israel many years later. He developed in his office and anointing phase by phase. Understanding phases of our call and ministry would help us not to be impatient. Faithfulness, patience and a willingness to spend time waiting on God in worship are the keys in preparation to receive the ministerial anointing in each phase. With each phase of obedience, God manifests a gift of greater anointing. It is God who promotes us from phase to phase and not men. Promotion does not come from the east or from the west or from the south but it comes from God.(Psa.76:6) It is God who appoints. When Paul and Barnabas were faithful to phase of their ministry in Antioch, Holy Spirit promoted them to international ministry. (Act13:3) With promotion comes a greater responsibility, burden to bear, sacrifice needed but God grants the grace to face the new task. As we develop in glory in ourselves, we would then be able to sense God's glory manifest while ministering. *Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.*(1Peter5:6)

### **The manifestation of the anointing**

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The anointing of the Holy Spirit always produces power. The word 'power' which is associated with the anointing comes from the Greek word 'dunamis' which means 'ability'. God's ability is imparted through the anointing. By defining the anointing as the enablement or impartation of God's ability upon an available and yielded vessel to fulfil and carry out His will and His work. This enablement and impartation will help those who have received it to do supernatural work even though they remain natural beings. The anointing in itself is of a heavenly materiality. It is a spiritual substance which inherently contains God's power. Like electricity it can be stored. The anointing in Paul's hands was transmitted and stored in handkerchiefs and aprons.(Acts 19:11,12) Elisha's anointing was still stored in his dead bones. There was enough stored power to raise a man from the dead.(2 Kings 13:21) It can be transferred and imparted through the laying on of hands.(Deut.34:9; 2 Timothy 1:6; 2 Kings 2:13, 14) Like Paul we can say that we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the power may be of God and not of ourselves.(2 Cor 4:7)

Paul said that his speech and preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.(1Co.2:4) We are called by God to break yokes of the devil over people's lives and destroy the works of the devil like Jesus did. It can only be done by the anointing. Only the anointing can break yokes! The anointing is real! The anointing is tangible! We must learn what it feels like for the anointing to be upon us. Moses' rod was transformed into a supernatural rod by the anointing of God. It was even given the title 'The Rod of God'. After King Solomon prayed, the fire of God came down from heaven and the glory of God, presence increased.(2Ch.7) The anointing of God is the tangible manifestation of God's power while the glory of God is the manifestation of God's divine attributes of mercy, grace.(Exo.33:18) To move in the glory of God is to move in love and mercy.

The first key is to receive the manifestation of the anointing. Much of modern Christianity is intellectually based. However, if we know everything about speaking in tongues and do not speak in tongues, our knowledge is empty. On the other hand, experience without knowledge leads to heresy. Those who depend merely on experience lean too much on emotionalism. If they are balanced by the Word of God, they would be very fruitful for Kingdom of God.

Ezekiel's prophecy 47:1-10 gives how the level of God's presence and power can increase in the lives of His people. Water, streams and rivers often refer to the presence and flow of God's Spirit. The highest attainable level of God's anointing represented by waters which flow from God's throne to individuals, nations. Wherever these water go, they bring healing and life to the needy. Spiritfilled believers have rivers of living water flowing from their innermost being. Five-Fold Levels of the Anointing: Level 1-Watching, Here Ezekiel watched the waters flow from the temple of God. This represents people who know the way but are unwilling to take first step of commitment. Level 2 - Ankle Deep, Many believers only desire a shallow experience with God. To them, the baptism is a once-off experience. Level 3 - Knee deep, The knee represents prayer and could indicate a loyalty to things of God, but at the same time they dare not wander deeper in the unknown realm of what God has for them. Level 4 - Waist Deep, The waist measures half of body length, indicating half-hearted approach to full surrender. It does indicate an unwillingness to give everything. Level 5 - Fully-Immersed, This represents the believer who lives by faith in the voice of the Word and the Spirit and does not make decisions according to outward appearances. These believers produce fruit, who are led by the Spirit and are not influenced by the flesh or natural surroundings. They are a blessing to others, bringing light, hope and joy. David grew in his anointing and resultant authority and influence. After his success in killing the lion and the bear, David overcame a battle by killing Goliath. David had developed in the anointing, from nominal king to actual king. He had grown from shepherd to warrior to ruler. David's victory over Goliath portrayed Christ's victory over Satan.

David speaks of "fresh oil", which is symbolic of the fresh, continued anointing of God: *I shall be anointed with fresh oil.*(PSA92:10) There is refreshing and renewal in the Lord. *Yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.*(2CO4:16) Christians to be filled and continually filled with Holy Spirit, thus ensuring a fresh outflow of the anointing.(EPH5:18) God told Moses that the anointing oil had to be fresh each day.(NUM11:8) Your anointing will not be fresh unless your personal relationship with God is maintained. You must maintain a life of holiness if you are to experience the fresh anointing of God upon your ministry. You must keep in contact with God through prayer and Bible study if you are to hear His voice, serve Him, and walk in His ways. Job's renewal came when he prayed for his friends.(JOB42:10) *Do not quench(subdue) the Holy Spirit.*(1TH5:19) Isa.40:31 says *those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.*

Oh, His presence! Do you smell it? The rose pickers must go out early in the morning to pick the buds. The dew must still be on the roses. They get the greatest yield of perfume from roses picked before sunrise. Beloved, let us arise early with the pickers and climb the heights of the mountain of God to gather the precious oil the costly ingredients for new anointing that shall break yoke and bring blessed deliverance. It is as we seek Him and tarry long in His presence that He pours flask of oil upon our heads in abundance, and all the character, wisdom, power and glory we need. We are commanded to put on Jesus Christ as He becomes our garment. Our walk, appearance and manner of speech, attitudes and expressions in our lives, should be surrounded with the precious spiritual perfume of His nature, will and ways. As we put Him on, and His garments, under this holy anointing of His priestly life and we emit the fragrance of Christ.

## The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

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The Holy Spirit's ministry was described by Jesus: *And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.*(JOH16:7-11) Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as "He". Jesus said, he will testify about me. (JOH15:26), I will send Him unto you.(JOH16:7) He shall glorify me.(JOH16:14) He shall not speak of Himself.(JOH16:13) He is spiritual, which means He has a Heavenly and glorious body with the ability to act, will, create, love, and speak. The Holy Spirit, as another Helper, came down and took the place of Jesus with the disciples. It is He who performs and continues the work of Jesus as if Jesus was actually physically present! *Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit... You have not lied to men but to God."*(ACT5:3-4)

The Holy Spirit was active in creation of the earth(GEN1:2)The Holy Spirit's ministry involves the written Word of God which is called the Scriptures, the Holy Bible.The Holy Spirit ministered by: Revelation-He spoke to human writers the message of God: *For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit*(II PE1:21) He guided these writers so the message would be accurate:(IITB:16-17) He enlightens human hearts to understand the message of the Gospel.(JOH14:26) The ministry of the Holy Spirit to Israel is evident from the very beginning of the nation.(EXO40:34) The Holy Spirit came upon the leaders of Israel, came upon Israel's places of worship.(IKI8:10), guided them to the promised land(NEH9:20), will come upon Israel during the tribulation, a future time of great trouble on the earth. God will place a special mark of protection on Israel.(REV7:2-4;ZEC12:10) The Holy Spirit even has a ministry concerning Satan. The Holy Spirit is the restraining spiritual force that limits the power of Satan: *When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.* (ISA59:19) When the Holy Spirit is removed from the world, then the spirit of the antichrist will have control for a period of time. The antichrist will be an evil world leader:(IITH2:7-14) The ministry of the Holy Spirit was evident in the life of Jesus from boyhood to His death on the cross. Jesus was conceived by the Spirit(LUK1:35) Anointed by the Spirit (MAT3:16) Sealed by the Spirit:(JOH6:27) Led by the Spirit:(MAT4:1) Empowered by the Spirit:(MAT12:28) Filled by the Spirit:(LUK4:1) Rejoiced in the Spirit:(LUK10:21) Offered through the Spirit:(HEB9:14) Raised by the Spirit:(IPE3:18) At His baptism in the Jordan River there was a very special manifestation of the Holy Spirit.(MAT3:13-17) At each test Jesus used the Sword of the Spirit against the Devil(EPH6:17) Every part of the life and ministry of Christ was anointed by the Holy Spirit. Before ascending to the Father, the Lord Jesus Christ spoke of the coming of the Holy Spirit just as He promised.(JOH14:26) *Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts.*(Zechariah 4: 6)

The world cannot be evangelized without the power and anointing of God. Jesus said that when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you shall receive power to be His witnesses.(ACT1:8) On the day of Pentecost the earthly ministry of the Holy Spirit began. He formed Body of Christ, the Church:(EPH2:19-22) From Jerusalem the Gospel message spread through-out the world signs and wonders followed. (HEB2:4) He convicts sin:It is the Holy Spirit that convicts of sin to draw men to Jesus so that he can be reconciled to God.(JOH16:8) *"but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father"*(ROM8:15) The Holy Spirit reveals the truth to us.Transforms: *but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit.*(TIT3:5;ROM8:29) Every born again child of God sealed with the Holy Spirit for the day of Redemption: *ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.* (EPH1:13; ROM8:23) He bears witness with our spirit that we are the son's of God *"The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God"*(ROM8:16) The Holy Spirit takes this life which has been changed by salvation and enables righteous living, empowers to walk in newness of life. He mortifies the deeds of the flesh: *"the Spirit so mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live"*(ROM8:13) Sanctifies:(IITH2:13) Dwelling in us: *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?*(ICO3:16;6:19) Strengthen:The purpose of this indwelling is to strengthen, be able to endure all temptations and trials, and be willing to suffer for Christ. And to resist Satan and to overcome him. *to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man.*(EPH3:16;6:10-12) Intercedes: *Because the Spirit intercedes for the saints*(ROM8:26,27;JUD20) Guides:(JOH16:13) Comforts:(ACT9:31) Quickens:(ROM8:11) Reveals: (ICO2:10) Teaches:(IJO2:27) Speaks:*but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Spirit.*(MAR13:11) Gives Liberty:(ROM8:2) Kept from falling: *but keep your salvation by the power of the Holy Spirit*(HEB10:38) Demonstrates love: *because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us*(ROM5:5)Demonstrates God's power:(ICO2:4-) Bears witness with the saints of the resurrection of Jesus.(ACT5:31) Help the believer to worship God in Spirit and in truth:(JOH4:24) Holy Spirit baptizes all the believers into one body/unites:(ICO12:13;6:17) The Holy Spirit distributes the gifts of the Spirit to every believer according to His will, to manifest himself through various gifts and thus edifies the church.(ICO12:7-11)The Holy Spirit enables to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.(GAL6:22,23)The Holy Spirit takes us from glory to glory:*transformed into his likeness with glory to glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*(2CO3:18) to be molded into the image of Christ. He anoints His servants for their ministry & directs its missionary activities(ACT8:29) Separated for His work:(ACT20:28) Guides its decisions:(ACT15:28) He gives the message to the minister of God in order to give it to church that they may teach, preach in the church. That the church may grow to very measure and the stature of the fullness of Christ.

## **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

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*Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.*(1CO12:1) Jesus left His followers with the responsibility to extend the Gospel message to the ends of the earth. The power of the Holy Spirit would help them fulfill this task. Spiritual gifts are supernatural abilities given by the Holy Spirit to empower believers to be effective witnesses of the Gospel. The word "spiritual" means characterized or controlled by the Holy Spirit. A gift is something freely given from one person to another. There is a difference between spiritual gifts and natural talents. A talent is a natural ability inherited at birth or developed through training. A spiritual gift is a special ability given by the Holy Spirit to be used for specific spiritual purposes. Although we should use all our natural talents for the work of the Lord, we still need Spiritual gifts provided spiritual capabilities. The various spiritual gifts are; Ministry (special) gifts: Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and Teacher. Motivational gifts: Service, Exhortation, Giving, Leadership, Mercy, Helps, Administration.(1CO13-15) Charismatic gifts: Wisdom, Knowledge, Discernment, Prophecy, Tongues, Interpretation, Faith, Healing and Miracles. The purposes of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are; in perfect the saints, Promote the work of the ministry to the ends of the earth, Edify Christ and the Church. The objectives or goals of spiritual gifts are that we will: become united in the faith, develop our knowledge of Christ, develop in perfection with Christ as our model, become stable not deceived by false doctrines, mature spiritually in Christ and in Love(EPH4:12-15)

*As every man has received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the many-sided grace of God.*(1PE4:10) Spiritual gifts come from the Holy Spirit. He gives and operates these gifts in the lives of believers. The Bible clearly states that the Holy Spirit distributes to each one of us individually as He wills. They cannot be obtained by any other method. It can be dangerous to try to operate a gift without the Holy Spirit's anointing. God is not the author of confusion(1CO14:33)Where there is confusion the gifts are not being used correctly. Spiritual gifts can be improperly used when you manipulate people, gain wealth, use them for your own selfish satisfaction rather than in ministry to others. When you glorify your gift, you begin to see the gift as greater than the Giver. As a steward, you will be judged on the basis of your faithfulness to use the gifts you have been given. You have the gifts of healing, faith, giving but without compassion in using these gifts, they will not be effective. Every gift is worthless, it profits nothing, unless it is used in love. Speaking in tongues becomes like a noisy clanging. Love is the more excellent way in which the gifts are used. That key is love.(1CO13) Let your love be sincere.(ROM12:9) The gifts become a channel through which God's love can flow to those around us. Each believer should use his spiritual gifts to work together with other believers who have different gifts. When this happens, the Church functions effectively as the Body of Christ. We are to function as the body of Christ in using spiritual gifts just as each member of the human body is important. Each part should be in harmony with other parts. There should be no division in the body. We should recognize the spiritual gifts of others. Believers should all care for each other. Every member has a place which God has chosen for him. He is equipped to fulfill his special purpose in the church through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. When each believer is filling the place God has chosen for him and using his spiritual gift, the church operates smoothly. *But now hath God set the members, every one of them, in the body, as it hath pleased Him.* The gift of faith is confidence and trust in God for the miraculous manifestation of divine power according to the promises and word of God. The purpose of the gifts of healings is to deliver the sick and to destroy the works of the devil in the human body. A miracle is a supernatural intervention in the ordinary course of nature. *"But eagerly desire the greater gifts"*(1CO12:1-31) Gifts should edify the church. The main guideline for proper use of gifts: *Let all things be done decently and in order.*(1CO14:12,40)

The first group of spiritual gifts are Special Gifts of the Holy Spirit: *And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets, and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.*(EPH4:11) These each leadership positions are sometimes called "offices" a place of responsibility and duty in the church. Apostle means "a delegate, one sent with full power and authority to act for another. The calling and desire to be an apostle comes from God(GAL1:1)The Bible speaks of special signs which confirm that a person has the gift of being an apostle(1CO12:12)*And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people.*(ACT5:12) The apostle is willing to adapt to other cultures and lifestyles in order to win people for Christ.(1CO9:19-23) Apostles extend the Gospel message by raising up churches, develops churches with trained leadership that can carry on without him.(ACT14:21-23;15:1-2;16:4-5) Their function was basically to lay the foundation of the church.(EPH2:20,MAT16:18), give God's revelation to men.(EPH3:5), and demonstrate the truth of that revelation by the exercising of their sign gifts. *...of the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord.*(1CO 9:2) There are two prophetic gifts. One is the special gift of being a prophet. And the other is the speaking gift of prophecy. Philip's daughters had the speaking gift of prophesy. But Agabus was a prophet who not only gave prophetic messages but held a leadership position in the church(ACT21:8-11) God still uses this gift to confirm guidance. In general prophecy refers to speaking under the special inspiration of God. It is the special ability to receive & communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely-anointed utterance. To prophesy means to declare openly words from God that exhort, edify, and comfort.(1CO14:3) One of the purposes of a prophet is to bring people to repentance. (1CH24:19) The Holy Spirit is always in control of true prophecy and directs attention to Jesus Christ.(1CO12:3) *Do not neglect the gift which is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the elders.*(1TI4:14)



## Spiritual Discernment

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*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try(test) the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*(1JO4:1) We are to test the spirits, religions, denominations, Bible schools, church organization, preachers, prophets because deceived people are many. *Beware of false prophets, who come to you dressed as sheep, but inside they are devouring wolves.*(MAT7:15;24:11,24) A person called the false prophet will be evident in events at the end of the world.(REV13:11-17;19:20;20:10) Bible warns of false apostles who are deceitful but can be recognized by their works.(IIC11:13-15) Lk 11:44 says the Bible teachers of that time, which also applies to today. These false teachers appear holy and look like true men of God; however, Jesus tells us that within they are dead men's bones and every thing unclean.(MAT23:27) *Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.*(COL2:18,19) Biblically a cult may be defined as those that have changed, left out, or added to the fundamentals of Bible doctrine. *So for the sake of your tradition, you have set aside the Word of God.*(MAT15:6) To be cultist is to be devoted to a person or to a doctrine in addition to the Lord Jesus Christ. Many will fall a prey to these instead of having a close personal relationship with Christ the Head. *"From among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore be on the alert"*(ACT20:30) It is possible doctrines are basically scriptural and the leaders are upright, yet unaware of the cultism that there can be in their attitudes towards their assembly, or leader. Paul was an apostle, but even his teachings checked with the Scriptures to see if they agreed.(ACT17:11) *Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said.*(1CO14:29) The second mark is that it has an additional written book, than the Bible, which is considered for all practical purposes. By regular reading of such books brainwashes believer's mind, so that gradually begins to interpret God's Word only in the way it is interpreted in that book. Thus his mind is programmed/set forever, beyond the reach of the Spirit. He becomes incapable of receiving light from Word of God. The superior insights and revelation into God's Word that they claim to have, develops in them a proud "We" and "they" attitude towards all other assembly. True holiness is the product of the grace of God.(ROM6:14) And God gives his grace only to the humble that they could not possibly be proud of it. Therefore primary characteristic of genuine holiness has to be the attitude of humility, brokenness and meekness. If our Lord Himself has accepted someone, what right have we to reject him, even if he does not agree with us?(LUK9:49-) You may live a godly life even if you have a such wrong attitude, but you will never be able to fulfill all of God's perfect will, purpose for your life. Paul writings of heresies meant destructive element within the church that creates division through consciously formed opinions and ideas in disagreement. Paul condemn as one of "the works of the flesh"(GAL5:20,21) It is translated "factions" or "party spirit" a spirit of division and competition.(1CO1:10-13;3:1-5) Bible warns that people who practice such things will not inherit Kingdom of God. Guard against spiritual pride by remembering that salvation is by grace alone and by maintaining faith and fear before the God is both kindness and severity. Otherwise you also will be cut off.(ROM11:21,22)

*Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.*(read 1CO4:1-5) Do you see what is being said here? Do not judge others, do not be judged of others, do not judge even yourself. We cannot say whether or not anyone is headed for punishment or reward, saint or sinner, heaven or hell, until the Lord Jesus comes as righteous Judge which is the work of God. Jesus explains the parable of the tares of the field. The tares are a weed that looks like wheat. When Jesus returns, the tares are the sons of the evil one, and are separated from the good seed.(MAT13:36-40) When Lord comes at the Day of Judgment, all secrets shall be revealed and a true judgment shall be passed on all men, who both will bring to light. (ROM2:10) All their motives shall be made known on that Day. It is most fearful that no man can hide his purposes beyond Day of Judgment. "Examine everything carefully, hold fast to that which is good, abstain from every form of evil." Receive gift of distinguishing between spirits (discern whether they are from God, human or demonic). *And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,*(PHI1:9-10)

*God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?"*(HEB2:4) It is important to understand that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are always flowing.

We discern the love of God flowing through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit manifesting in the nine gifts, the five-fold offices and the nine body ministries.(ROM12:6-8;1COR28-31) The key is to discern the purpose or type of anointing manifesting and each produces a different work.(ISA11:2;4:4;1PE4:14) Once we have discerned the type of anointing, we have to discern how to channel it. Example, if a healing anointing is present, we would have to listen carefully to the Holy Spirit whether He wants us to lay hands on them, use oil, have them lay hands on themselves. There are many ways to channel the same anointing. Jesus uses a variety of methods to channel (release the faith) the healing anointing: by the spoken word, by using clay, by spitting, by touch. Jesus was sensitive to the Holy Spirit and did not patent a method. Methods are determined by specific instructions of the Holy Spirit on each occasion, by level of anointing manifesting and God's personal instruction to the minister to operate a method. eg. Moses using the rod.

*Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting truths with spiritual language*(1CO2:12-13) Many speak of wisdom in different ways in the world, the pagan wisdom(false wisdom), the worldly wisdom(science) and the true wisdom. In the Bible, wisdom is used to translate the Hebrew word "Hok-mah" meaning to be wise in thought and deed, and the Greek word is sophia; meaning clear or wise. *"The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens"*(PRO3:19)

What is wisdom? It's not knowledge. You can be an educated fool! Worldly wisdom is nothing more than dead-end self-righteous vanity i.e. *"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."* (PRO14:12) and *For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.*(1CO3:19-20) There were two trees in the Garden of Eden: The tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve had chosen the wrong tree. The knowledge of good and evil isn't the kind of knowledge we want. From experiencing evil, we gain knowledge of it, but what good does that do? It only serves to alienate us from God and each other. *But God has revealed it [wisdom] to us by his Spirit.*(1CO2:10a) The Scriptures make clear that wisdom that is based upon the Word of God is the only true wisdom. Wisdom is the ability to see everything from God's perspective. An attitude and an action, it is a skill that you can develop. Wisdom, through the indwelling Holy Spirit, empowers you to make right decisions - decisions that lead to living a life of righteousness. One who has true wisdom also will have understanding. A person with wisdom understands God's principles and His teachings. He knows God's laws are good and are right. We can conclude that wisdom involves discerning right and wrong and revelation or insight for dealing with life's situations.

God told Solomon to ask for whatever he desired most. Solomon asked for wisdom so that he might be able to govern his people properly and wisely. That gained for him God's favor and brought him rewards.(1KI3:5-14) Solomon became the wisest man who ever lived written books to teach his people how to live and how to act in every circumstance. (1KI4:29)The key to life is to get God's wisdom. *Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get [godly] wisdom:And with all you have gotten, get understanding* "(PRO4:7) Proverbs 3:16-18 gives six benefits. Wisdom is more valuable than precious jewels; Wisdom offers you *long life, health and honor*. It can make your life *pleasant* and lead you *safely* through it. Those who become wise are *happy*." Solomon summarizes it: *Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.*(ECC12:13;14)The starting point in becoming wise is Trusting the Lord. Get wisdom by reading God's word, doing what it says and getting to know God(PRO1:7,7:1-2;9:10;JAM1:22) But it takes more than reading the book, studying it, memorize it. Yet knowledge is worthless if it is not correctly applied it in your life.To grow in the wisdom of God,you must analyze yourself and be certain that you hate evil. Be sure that you are working at getting rid of pride, vanity and arrogance in yourself. As a teenager growing up in a rotten world, often face many pressures in dealing with those who do evil. Many of your friends make wrong choices and do wrong things. There are times when you are tempted to do something that is false, to follow the way of the evil man. Yet, you will be delivered if wisdom abounds in you. You will be delivered from the temptations and struggles that you face. *For the Lord gives wisdom,*(PRO2:6)

*For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;*1CO12:8) Wisdom from God is to attain that we need only ask. *If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.*(JAM1:5,7;PRO9) *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights.*Obedience, equaled wisdom.(DEU4:6) Knowledge is the facts/information and to depart from evil is understanding.(JOB28:12-28) Wisdom relates directly to what you speak. What does your tongue do? Are you in control—"clean"? When people all around you are using filthy language, you must be different. Wisdom is demonstrated by one's 'good life' and by deeds done in humility.(JAM3:13-17) There is a wisdom that comes from above, and there is a wisdom that is earthly.What is the result of 'earthly wisdom? Envy and selfish ambition, it leads people to cause trouble and do cruel things. Devil is placing envy and selfish desires in mind. Bible condemns us expressing our envy in unspiritual, aggressive, cruel ways rather than praying to the Lord to meet our needs. Heavenly wisdom is first *pure, then peaceable, gentle, considerate, submissive, kind, helpful, genuine, and sincere*. In Gal5:22, Paul calls this the 'fruit of the spirit' while James calls it 'wisdom from heaven'. Following ways of Wisdom is the option in any decision which offers opportunity for spiritual advancement in every area of life. It is the option in harmony with what God has revealed through prayer, written Word, inner voice of the Holy Spirit, and counsel. Ability to recognize the way of wisdom (distinguish between truth and falsehood, good and evil) increases through spiritual maturity.(HEB5:12-14) The wisdom of Christ serves as a model for us not only in its characteristics, but also in its source. *"in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*(COL2:3;ISA11:2) Apostal Paul says that Christ Jesus "became wisdom to us from God when we believed in Christ, God put us into Him. that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.(1CO1:30,31) *Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!* (ROM11:33) *May God fill you with the knowledge of his will through all wisdom and spiritual understanding.*(COL1:9)