

Women's Bible Study

April 20, 2022

1 John 2:20-23

1 John 2:20

But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.

But you have been anointed

Compared to the false teachers John described in 1 John 2:18–19, John reassures true believers reading this letter that they have been anointed and possess knowledge of the truth.

The word anointing (chrisma) means, “something rubbed in or ointment;” oil was used for anointing or ointment. This was a special endowment (“chrism”) of the Holy Spirit and by it, they were regarded as gifted with the Holy Spirit and divine gifts. *Strong's Concordance*

1 Samuel 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.

In the old testament kings, priests and prophets were anointed with oil for their inauguration or coronation. The physical act of ceremonial anointing, involved the smearing, rubbing or pouring a sacred oil on one's head as an outward symbol that God had chosen and set apart a person. They were consecrated to their offices by using oil and were represented as anointed, or as gifted with those graces of the Spirit, in which anointing was the symbol.

Exodus 28:41 And you shall put them on Aaron your brother, and on his sons with him, and shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve me as priests.

1 Kings 19:15-16 And the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place.

1 Samuel 10:1 Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his (Saul's) head and kissed him and said, “Has not the Lord anointed you to be prince over his people Israel? And you shall reign over the people of the Lord and you will save them from the hand of their surrounding enemies. And this shall be the sign to you that the Lord has anointed you to be prince over his heritage.

David, who was once a shepherd boy, was known as the Shepherd King of Israel and writes in **Psalm 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

In order to protect their sheep a shepherd would pour oil over the heads of the sheep. This was mainly used to protect their ears and eyes from insect infestation. Once the eggs turned into worms, it literally drove the sheep crazy. They would bang their head on the rocks, sometimes even to death. It was also very slippery that it affected the invader's grip. The oil formed a barrier of protection against the evil that tried to invade and destroy the sheep.

In the New Testament, Christians are described as “kings and priests,” and therefore we are represented as “anointed,” or as endowed with those graces of the Spirit. We have the protection from the Holy Spirit “an anointing” who guards us from those who would try and draw us away with twisted words and doctrine. We are a people for God's own possession a royal and holy priesthood.

1 Peter 2:5 You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

What would be a requirement for a priest?

What are the requirements for a believer in Christ?

By the Holy One

This anointing refers to the Spirit of God being poured out by Jesus “the Holy One.” It is God who establishes us with Christ and has anointed us by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit works within the people of God to enlighten, sanctify and protect us from falling into error.

Psalm 71:22 I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 43:3a For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Luke 4:17-18 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him (Jesus). He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to sit at liberty those who are oppressed.

Acts 10:38 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.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

What does the seal of the Holy Spirit guarantee believers?

And you all have knowledge

John is guarding the Christians against seducers and deceivers, who were even then disturbing and striving to corrupt the Church. In consequence of this he desires them to try the spirits whether they were of God. But how were they to try them? Principally by that anointing - that spiritual light and discernment which they had received from God; and also by comparing the doctrine of these men with what they had heard from the beginning. The anointing here mentioned seems to mean the spirit of illumination, or great knowledge and discernment in spiritual things. By this they could readily distinguish the false apostles from the true. *Adam Clarke Commentary*

1 John 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

The Holy Spirit within believers, enables one to understand and interpret the truth of God's Word. The teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit uses the truth that we know to guide and direct believers into fullness of God's preferred-will. He leads in all spiritual things, and He reveals that Jesus is who He said He is.

John 14:16-17 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

John 16:13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

1 John 2:27 But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.

Barnes New Testament Commentary states it so beautifully, John implies:

That the minds of Christians are so enlightened that they have a new perception of the truth. They see it in a light in which they did not before. They see it as truth. They see its beauty, its force, its adaptedness to their condition and wants. They understand the subject of religion better than they once did, and better than others do. What was once dark appears now plain; what once had no beauty to their minds now appears beautiful; what was once repellent is now attractive.

They see this to be true; that is, they see it in such a light that they cannot doubt that it is true. They have such views of the doctrines of religion, that they have no doubt that they are true, and are willing on the belief of their truth to lay down their lives, and stake their eternal interests.

What is needed in a believer's life in order to understand these truths?

Faith is always a gift from God, and never something that can be produced by people. In short, for the believer is "God's divine persuasion"—and therefore distinct from human belief (confidence) yet involving it. The Lord continuously births faith in the yielded believer so they can know what He prefers, i.e. the persuasion of His will. It is God's warranty that guarantees the fulfillment of the revelation He births within the receptive believer. Faith is always received from God, and never generated by us. *Strong's Concordance*

Romans 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

Hebrews 11:1-3 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

1 John 5:4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

1 John 2:21

I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it

John writes to protect his readers against the antichrists who were trying to seduce them. He points out what the lie is, and who the liars are. Remember, these false teachers and

prophets knew truth of the gospel but what they were saying contradicted the gospel. It was evident that they did not accept or apply the true gospel message.

What is expected from a believer who knows the truth?

A believer knows the truth and that knowledge is accepted and applied.

Proverbs 1:5 Let the wise hear and increase in learning and the one who understands obtain guidance.

Proverbs 9:8-9 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

2 Peter 1:12 Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have.

And because no lie is of the truth

These antichrists were liars (falsifiers). They contradicted the gospel and proved themselves to be liars. Why is that? Because the message they were bringing were lies and false! They were not in fellowship with God, they were walking in darkness!

1 John 1:6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

The gospel message contains no lies! No form of error can ever be found in truth. The gospel is based on truth, truth that is perfect, pure, complete=absolute!

Psalms 119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your law is truth.

Matthew 22:16a And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are truthful and teach the way of God in truth.

John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Where are we to get our truth? Why is that?

1 John 2:22

Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

Who is the liar

John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

1 John 2:4 Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 John 4:20 If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

Who is the liar? What is the result when we listen and believe his lies?

But he who denies that Jesus is the Christ?

As false doctrines began to spread, there were certain persons who acknowledged Jesus to be a Divine teacher, but denied Him to be Christ, the true Messiah.

1 Corinthians 12:2-3 You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says, “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

1 John 4:3 And every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

2 John 1:7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.

Jude 1:4 For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Why is it important that we are aware of false doctrine?

This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son

He is antichrist who denies (contradict, refuse) the supernatural and miraculous birth of Jesus Christ, the one who denies Jesus to be the Son of God, and one who denies the Father and the Son.

The Gnostics not only denied the miraculous conception of Jesus they thought of Jesus as a common man, the son of Joseph and Mary. Jesus was also rejected by His own, **John 6:42** “The Jews grumbled at Him saying, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I came down from heaven’?”

Why is it important to have correct views of the Father and Son?

Albert Barnes NT Commentary states, “Correct views of the Father could not be held without correct views of the Son; correct views of the Son could not be held without correct views of the Father. The doctrines respecting the Father and the Son were so connected that one could not be held without holding the other, and one could not be denied without denying the other.”

John 10:30 (Jesus said) “I and the Father are one.”

1 John 2:23

No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

No one who denies the Son has the Father

He who denies Jesus to be the Son of God, and the Christ or Messiah, does not have the Father, and are not among the children of God. It is only those who have placed their faith in Christ Jesus alone who are a child of God. It is only through Jesus that the Father is made known to people and we can become reconciled to God the Father.

Luke 10:22 All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

John 5:23 That all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.

John 8:19 They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.”

John 14:9-10 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

We cannot give glory to God unless we give glory to His Son who is the fullness of His glory. Jesus is the exact representation of God and His nature. The Spirit reveals to us of Christ’s Deity... He is the Messiah, His death, burial, and His resurrection, His exaltation at the right hand of God. The Holy Spirit gives glory to Christ in all things.

Hebrews 1:2-3 But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also

If one denies the Son of God, they cannot claim to know God. If anyone has any knowledge of the Son of God, they will make a confession that Jesus is the Son of God, this is proof that they know the Father.

Luke 12:8 And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God.

Romans 10:9-11 Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”

1 John 4:15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

Why is it important for a believer to confess Jesus?

Philippians 2:9-11 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

One Commentator states, “Jesus said in John 16:9 that **He would send the Holy Spirit to convict the world of sin**. What sin? **“Because they believe not in Me.”** The greatest sin that a man can commit is the failure to believe in Jesus Christ. Why? Because that is to say that He is not God; He is not the Savior; He is not to be worshipped; He is not to be Lord. And to say that is to dishonor the Father... The reason, that we are to confess Jesus is Lord is because it glorifies God the Father. That is the basic principle of salvation. We are to confess Christ as Lord; that is salvation for the glory of God.

Jesus Christ is Lord! He has the name above all names! His name was given to Him by the Father and affirms His divinity and supreme authority.

The great truth can never be too clearly stated, or too often inculcated (instilled/taught), that it is only by a knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ that we can have any true acquaintance with God, and that all who have just views of the Saviors are in fact acquainted with the true God, and are heirs of eternal life. *Albert Barnes' NT Commentary*

John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.