

The Lord Has Anointed You

Isaiah 61:1-3

Welcome back and here we go! Tonight I have the honor of starting our Summer Sermon Series! My passage is Isaiah 61:1-3.

Isaiah 61:1-3 *"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³ To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified."*

This scripture has special significance because Jesus began His ministry with it.

Luke 4:16-21 *So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 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:*

¹⁸ "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, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

1) Jesus proclaimed His _____ and His _____.

For me, this scripture holds special significance. God had poured out on me and I believed I had a special anointing from God. You know sometimes we second guess ourselves, question our spiritual authority, wonder what our place is in the Body of Christ. I had just begun my ministry in the general population at Placer County Jail and a chaplain came in.

=== Story ===

Later I felt like maybe I had disrespected God --- claimed to be Jesus --- had gone too far. It really concerned me that my powerful ministry had turned to pride.

=== Rod's Story ===

2) The Lord has _____ you!

When you accept Christ as your savior, you become a part of the Body of Christ and receive an anointing to serve! All of us do.

Romans 12:3-8 *For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. ⁴ For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, ⁵ so*

we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. ⁶ 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; ⁷ or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; ⁸ he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

It is not a question of if you are anointed, it is will you walk in your anointing?

3) What _____ me from _____ with authority?

Jesus, in Nazareth, said He could do no great works because of unbelief.....

4) It is our _____ unbelief that kills ministry!

Today I asked most of you what has God anointed you to do.

- Praise Him in bad times
- Have sensitivity with empathy
- Serve others
- To care
- Make everyone I contact feel noticed and cared about
- Encourage others
- Love unconditionally
- Be kind and caring
- Preach the Word with fire!
- Be forgiving
- We are God's ambassadors and God is appealing through us.
- Serve Him by serving others.

God has anointed you!

So, let's finish out the scripture.

Isaiah 61:2-3

This is your anointing: To claim beauty for ashes.

=== Foot of the Cross ===

5) We are the _____ of the Lord.

Isaiah 11:2 and ***6:8*** are my life verses. I have been anointed and I have agreed to serve.

Isaiah 11:2 The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord

Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

What is your anointing and why are you still in Nazareth? Hopefully you are not.

I love you!