



## CrossRoads Notes:

Turn your Bibles to Zechariah 4:6

**Title: Grasping God's Anointing**

**Theme: A Recipe for the Anointing of the Holy Spirit**

**Introduction:** Our Text found in Zechariah chapter four is a vision of comfort to a people whom were in great need of God's mighty empowerment. It is important to remember that the main purpose of the vision was to encourage the two leaders, Joshua and Zerubbabel in the work of rebuilding the temple by reminding them of their Divine resources. God spoke to Zechariah in this vision about how the holy things of God will be done. It is a vision of much encouragement to the people of God, and lays a foundational truth for the church of Jesus Christ today....

Listen as I read Zechariah 4:6 / Pray!

Zerubbabel's name means, "'Yahweh's personal residence among His people.'" Meaning that he was God's anointed servant sent to accomplish a certain task....

**Proposition:** I would propose to you that any church who is surrendered to the complete will of God and is striving to walk in obedience to His written Word, has this encouragement, "...Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit says the Lord Almighty." The promise to the obedient church of Jesus Christ is that you "...will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Dr. Kenneth L. Baker wrote:

Henry T. Blackaby said:

**Interrogative Sentence:** What should be in the heart of the child of God who is "Grasping the Anointing of God's Holy Spirit?" Is there a "Recipe for the Anointing of the Holy Spirit" that will enable the born again believer to walk in the empowerment that Joshua and Zerubbabel did?

**Transitional Sentence:** Every Christian needs God's power in their lives and upon the ministry that God has called them to work in or else their efforts will be completely useless. Exodus 30: 22 – 33 holds the ingredients that should be in the heart of the child of God who is "Grasping for God's Anointing."

This oil had infused into it the essence of four "principal spices." Myrrh, cinnamon, fragrant cane, and cassia.

**Transitional Sentence:** We must begin with a simple understanding of the anointing with oil from Exodus 30. It is for the setting apart for God's use. It is also important to note that the anointing with oil was symbolizing the Holy Spirit.

The first ingredient in making God's special anointing oil was liquid Myrrh.

Dr. George Rawlinson tells us that liquid myrrh can be translated as pure myrrh or literally "myrrh of freedom"

What sacrifices are you making or have made to be trained for the Lord's work? How are you allowing the Lord to continue to work in your life, exposing attitudes of self and cleansing of the world out of your heart? Is the "Old Man" dead within you, have you been made a new creation in Christ Jesus?

**Transitional Sentence:** The second ingredient to obtaining the anointing oil special to God was fragrant cinnamon.

A term you read often in the Bible is "an aroma pleasing to the Lord." God wants sacrifices that are a pleasing aroma, and this is done by 1.) Offering our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God. (Rom. 12:1, 2) 2.) By obeying the Word's of Christ. (Jn. 15:10; Matt. 3:17) And 3.) By conducting ministries that are gripped with a passion for Christ, and are victorious in Christ, thus, becoming a sweet fragrance to God.

2 Corinthians 2:15 – 17

"Peddle" (kapeleuontes) can also be translated as "corrupt." Meaning to corrupt the Word of God. It is taken from an old word meaning huckster. A huckster is defined as one who is a hawker, or a trickery fellow. As it is used here, is one who peddles for personal gain. It can also mean to adulterate, to whittle down, to contaminate, to tamper with the Word of God. The Practical Word Studies of the New Testament tells us that the application "...is to mix other things into the Word of God and the gospel such as, personal ideas, speculations, the latest religious fads or novel ideas."

"Sincerity." The word "sincere" here means that the pastor and church have pure, unadulterated hearts. The practical application is that their motives have been shaken and rolled through a sieve. They will be unstained and untainted when inspected....

What purpose do you have as you do ministry, is it to gain numbers or make true disciples of Christ? Can your ministry withstand close inspections? Do you joyfully allow your ministry to be examined for sincerity?

**Transitional Sentence:** The third ingredient that made the special anointing oil for those who were to be set apart for service to God was fragrant cane. The Calamus plant is a fragrant ginger-grass often found in central India and grows in miry soil. To get the plant to put off its strong, spicy, aromatic scent, it has to be beaten. The more you beat it the better it smells.

The application here for receiving God's anointing is that the pastor or Christian is often taken through the school of hard knocks, thus God is able to fashion the character desired in the man or women being set apart for a certain task.

Illustration:

Romans 8: 28-29

Integrity Check:

Obedience Checks:

Spiritual Authority: Dr. J Robert Clinton wrote, "Spiritual authority is the source of true credibility in leadership."

Word Checks:

Illustration: Joseph, his name means "may God add."....

Have you allowed the Lord to take you through the school of hard knocks? What position in the ministry would you like to be put in and are you willing to be prepared like the apostle Paul was? Are you letting the trials that God takes you through conform you into the image of Christ? If you do, God will add to your ministry.

**Transitional Sentence:** The fourth ingredient that was used for the special anointing oil was Cassia.

Cassia is a spice that grows only at elevations above 8,000 feet. You got to get up on the mountain to get it. It comes from the bark of a shrub native to the East Indies and was valuable in trade to Palestine.

The application here today is, the anointing we need from God must be sought after and be as precious to us as it was to Christ. One pastor wrote "Cassia means to split, to scrape off, to purge as it was from the bark of Blume shrub tree."

The symbolic meaning is the more we allow God to break our hearts for His righteousness, to scrape away and purify our hearts, the sweeter the aroma of life we will be to Him and the more valuable we will be in the building of the kingdom of God. Cassia symbolizes the purifying effect of the anointing of God upon your life and there is no shortcuts to the anointing, we have to pray, be fed and washed by the Word of God.

**In Closing:** In 2 Timothy we read of workman approved by God. The Bible says "... God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: 'The Lord knows those who are his,' and, 'Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.' <sup>2Ti 2:20</sup> In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. <sup>2Ti 2:21</sup> If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work." .... (2 Timothy 2:19-21)

The foundation here is the church, one who "confesses" (*onomazo*) meaning to put into practice what he professes." ....

1.) Allowed the Holy Spirit to apply Myrrh to the heart. That dying to self, dying to their own agenda, to their own dreams and are now surrendered to God's will for them. No matter what that might be. 2.) They have allowed the Holy Spirit to apply the fragrance of cinnamon oil. They offer their bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God. They obey the teaching of Christ and their passion is for Christ and that makes them a sweet fragrance to God. 3.) They have allowed the Holy Spirit to apply "fragrant cane." The more and the harder the trials are, the more they come out smelling like a rose. They know and live the truths found in Romans "...in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son..." (Romans 8:28-29) 4.) They have allowed the Holy Spirit to apply the fragrance of Cassia. Their hearts have been split open by the hammer of God's Word, they are being washed by the written Word because they know that the Word of God not only takes out soiled spots, but will keep the heart from remaining dirty. They also hunger for the righteousness of God. (Jeremiah 23:29; Ephesians 5:26; Matthew 5:6) They are a very precious commodity in the building of the kingdom of God.

Illustration: Matthew Ward:

Let us Pray!