

05-Apostles and the Melchizedek Anointing

Priests and Kings

We have been discussing apostles and apostolic anointing. Let's backtrack a little bit to discuss the five gifts given to the Ekklesia by Jesus. Those called to apostle, prophet, teacher, evangelist, or pastor often think they have been given the gift of these anointings. I have said before I believe if you are called to one of these, it was placed in you from birth. It is in your DNA. You have not been given a gift by Jesus. You are the gift, given by Jesus to His people to reveal who He is. Five is the number representing grace. The fullness of His grace is being revealed to mankind.

Instead of pride and thinking oneself higher than another, it should be a sobering thought to be an apostle. You were made to lay down your life for the saints. In Romans, chapter 16, Paul talks about a mystery. That mystery was the revealing of who Jesus was and is. The objective of these five gifts is to reveal special aspects or grace of Jesus Himself, to His saints. Apostles pass on an apostolic anointing that reveals Jesus as the Apostle and High Priest (Hebrews, chapter 13).

Many who become aware that Jesus has called them to one of these anointings, immediately try to find themselves a leadership position in a "church". Their understanding of this anointing is restricted to being behind four walls. Current understanding limits them. In recent days, some have been given "license" to be a "marketplace" apostle and operate outside the four walls of the "church".



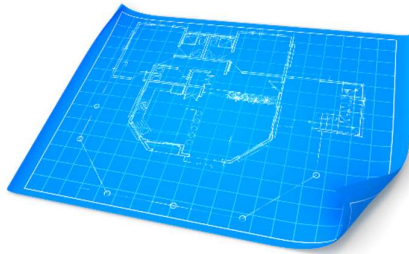
They do not understand that they were born as the gift. They operate in it 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is not something you put on and take off, like clothing. You are equipped with what is needed to establish saints in the Ekklesia wherever you are placed, whether in a school, a business, a theatre, a hotel, a home. There are no marketplace apostles. If you are an apostle, you are an apostle. There is no need for branding.

The apostolic anointing or grace God places on men and women He has chosen as apostles is not for the purpose of building "churches" or networks or ministries. It is for the purpose of passing on the apostolic anointing during the process of building saints. As saints are discipled in the ways of God and learn to hear the voice of the King for themselves, Jesus destroys the wood, hay, and stubble in their lives. He then polishes the gold, silver, and precious stones and establishes them as His true

Ekklesia. They are ready to do their part wherever God places them in society to extend the Kingdom of God on earth, just as it exists in heaven.

Before we go further let's review some points concerning apostles and the apostolic anointing. When we talk about apostles, we are talking about true apostles who have committed to obey God and do things His way. Jesus is the foundation of the Ekklesia.

True apostles and prophets see what Jesus is establishing and through apostolic anointing relay that vision (blueprints) to God's people.



Apostles pass on apostolic anointing to saints through the laying on of hands so the saints can see and understand what Jesus is establishing.

Apostles are wise master builders like Paul indicated he was. They build only on what Jesus has established. They build people not kingdoms.

Apostles are like Abraham who see a city not built with human hands. They understand our inheritance is the fullness of the King and they lead us to Him, our inheritance. True apostles must arise now to lead the people out from the ruins of the past pasture into the glorious inheritance that is already there for us.

The apostolic anointing:

- allows us to understand secrets and mysteries of God
- Helps us understand who we are in Christ and God's plan for our lives through apostolic anointing
- causes the fog over our eyes to dissipate so we can see truth
- leads us out of something old, through transformation, and into something new
- operates with a spirit of wisdom or understanding, not only seeing but understanding what they see
- operates from the Kingdom of God, bringing heaven to earth
- understands its responsibility to help prepare a bride for the Lord
- understands the times and seasons of God
- Most of all, the apostolic anointing is not kept to the apostles themselves but is passed on to the saints so the whole world can benefit from the anointing

We continue on in our venture to discover truths concerning the apostolic anointing. Today, we are going to explore the Melchizedek anointing. Melchizedek is first mentioned in Genesis chapter 14.

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. Genesis 14:18 (KJV)



The first thing we notice about Melchizedek is he is both king and priest. His name means “king of righteousness”. He brings forth bread and wine, elements Jesus served His disciples at the last supper, representing His body and His blood.

Some say Melchizedek was the Lord, preincarnate, which means before the Son of God appeared on earth in the human form of Jesus. Whoever he was, he represented our Lord who came to earth to die and rise again as the Redeemer. He existed before the law was given to Israel by God through Moses. Under the Mosaic law, the tribe of Levi was chosen to be a tribe of priests. Only those in that tribe could be chosen to be a priest. As the saying goes, “All Levites are not priests, but all priests are Levites.

The Lord has sworn and will not change, “You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.” Psalm 110:5 (MEV)

The Father tells His Son that He has sworn an oath that cannot be rescinded. The Hebrew word for oath or sworn actually means “seventh Himself”. Since there is no one higher than He, He swears by Himself seven times. He knows the end from the beginning. When God swears an oath, it is done even as it begins. The number seven connotes completeness.

Melchizedek was priest of Salem, which would later be known as Jerusalem. The word salem in Hebrew means “full, whole, complete, perfect”. He was both completely priest and completely king.

The Melchizedek priesthood is different than the Levitical priesthood. It operates from kingship as well as priesthood. In Revelation chapter 1, God revealed some truths to John. He opens with messages to the Ekklesia located in seven different cities, representing the complete, finished, mature Ekklesia.

John, To the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who

loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
Revelation 1:4-6 (MEV)

This passage from Revelations clearly says that we have been made kings and priests under the King of Kings; under the one whom the Father swore would be a Melchizedek priest forever!

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may declare the goodness of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9 (MEV)



Peter wrote about us being a royal priesthood, a kingly priesthood. We are both kings and priests. We are also priests under the Melchisedek anointing. David was a king who represented the Melchisedek anointing at a time when it was only for the Levitical tribe to be appointed as priests.

King David operated from both the king anointing and the priest anointing, even though He was from the tribe of Judah and not the tribe of Levi. Our Lord came through the tribe of Judah. The key of David, mentioned in the Bible, represents the government of Jesus, which is both kingly and priestly. We will discuss the key of David in more detail in a subsequent post. Being both priest and king is apostolic. It is the role of apostles to help us to understand how a kingdom of priests and kings in the earth operate.

Therefore, holy brothers, partakers in a heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Jesus Christ, who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses was faithful in all His house. Hebrews 3:1,2 (MEV)

Remember again, apostles are messengers sent from God with a message. They help build the saints into a people who can hear God and deliver messages as well. We need instructions from God on a daily basis, in our own lives and the lives of those around us.

In order to become a holy nation, we must become a priesthood. Priests were responsible for teaching the people

They shall teach My people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. Ezekiel 44:23 (MEV)

In the next verse, priests were also to be able to judge accurately by discerning what God Himself would judge in a given situation. They would know how to operate in

righteousness and justice, the pillars of God's throne. They would discern by the spirit of God, not by their own mind or flesh.

Sometimes we do things because it seems best to us to do something, when God would do otherwise. Priests listen to God and do exactly what He says to do. They do not operate out of an internal need to perform or to DO. Priests wait on God for the answer and the action, which is not always easy for us, as humans. We have nothing to prove to God. In Exodus chapter 29, priests were to be consecrated to the Lord for seven days before they could perform their duties as a priest.

Seven, again, represents completeness and maturity. We must mature in the things of God so we can operate in the kingdom of God effectively as a priest. It is important for us to mature and be established in the Ekklesia that Jesus is building. We must mature and be established in order to truly advance the Kingdom of God in the earth. We need the apostolic anointing to operate and be established as a kingdom of priests and kings.

Apostolic people operate in a high level of discernment, knowing how God wants to react in the situations faced each day. If it is apostolic, it operates in discernment. If it is not priestly, it is not apostolic. If it is not kingly, it is not apostolic. Let's take a look at the life of David in relationship to the Melchisedek anointing.

David had a word from God that one day he would become king. It took around fifteen years of training and waiting for David to be ready to become king. We do not become effective kings overnight. We, too, must go through training and waiting until we are ready.

Only in maturity are we able to effectively separate the voice of our Lord from the other voices all around us. Only in maturity have we come to the place where we trust Him explicitly and will only follow His voice. The apostles and prophets are supposed to help us and teach us until we can hear the voice of our Lord for ourselves. Only in maturity can we assume the full responsibility and privileges of being a priest and king.

David was anointed the first time by Samuel the prophet. David was still pretty young, probably around fifteen years of age. He was just a shepherd boy, but he learned to fight by taking on a bear and a lion. He also learned to hear God's voice and trust God, which enabled him to defeat Goliath, the giant. I Samuel 16:13 tells us that when David was anointed, the Spirit of God came upon him from that day forward.

The second time David was anointed to be king was when he was around 30 and he was then made king over Judah, but not all of Israel. He had inquired of God where he should go, and God told David to go to Hebron. David obeyed. There the men of Judah anointed David as their king. (II Samuel, chapter 2)



This was not the full promise for God had told David that he would be king over Israel, not just Judah. David could have said, "This is enough" and settled, but he didn't.

Around seven years later, David was anointed for the third time. This time it would be as king of all Israel. Again, the anointing would come in the town of Hebron, in the land of Judah (II Samuel, chapter 5). The full fulfillment of the promise came approximately 22 years after the initial promise. Just a reminder that prophetic words most generally do not happen instantaneously.

David was not ready to be king at 15, although the Bible does tell us of one young lad who took the throne at age seven. Depending on the call of God on our life, it may take longer for us to be prepared for what is ahead. The point is, although God has designated us as a kingdom of priests and kings, it takes processes of growth for us to get to the place where we can effectively be priests and kings in His Kingdom.

True prophets and apostles must step up to the plate and be responsible for what God has called them to do and be. All one has to do is look at the condition of the Ekklesia today and know they have not done their job. How can I say that? Because the five gifts given to the Ekklesia by Jesus are meant to help bring saints to maturity. The majority of saints are a long ways from being mature.

Jesus is building His Ekklesia. The gifts of apostle, prophet, teacher, evangelist and pastor are given to the Ekklesia to find the treasures hidden in them and bring them out into view. They polish the treasure and teach them to hear the voice of the master and to only follow Him. Jesus then takes these polished, mature stones and places them in the Ekklesia in the special place He has for them.

These true gifts are not busy building their own kingdoms. They are busy building saints for Jesus. They help them through the processes needed to come into maturity. They teach them to rely completely on the Spirit of God for instruction and direction. We cannot all be going in the same direction, marching to the same beat unless we are totally led by the Spirit of God.

We are destined to be priests and kings in God's Kingdom, but we must mature. Maturity is the journey into the Father's heart. It is the journey into looking like Jesus. It is the journey of being united with Jesus, where He is the head and we are the body. Maturity is the place of hearing the voice of God and obeying His every word to us. Every day there are events in our lives that are meant to bring us to a new level of maturity.

Maturity opens doors that nothing else can. We must develop the ability to hear God's voice and understand the Father's heart if we are going to mature. Revelation is only obtained from the ability to hear the voice of God. If we are not serious about maturity, we will never embrace our true identity and destiny. We will always stop short. We will never be free from the chains holding us back, if we do not seek maturity.

To operate in the Melchisedek anointing as both priest and king, we must mature. This Bible passage defines more clearly what true maturity is.

My passion is to be consumed with him and not cling to my own “righteousness” based in keeping the written Law. My only “righteousness” will be his, based on the faithfulness of Jesus Christ—the very righteousness that comes from God. And I continually long to know the wonders of Jesus and to experience the overflowing power of his resurrection working in me. I will be one with him in his sufferings and become like him in his death. Only then will I be able to experience complete oneness with him in his resurrection from the realm of death. I admit that I haven’t yet acquired the absolute fullness that I’m pursuing, but I run with passion into his abundance so that I may reach the purpose for which Christ Jesus laid hold of me to make me his own. I don’t depend on my own strength to accomplish this; however I do have one compelling focus: I forget all of the past as I fasten my heart to the future instead. I run straight for the divine invitation of reaching the heavenly goal and gaining the victory-prize through the anointing of Jesus. So let all who are fully mature have this same passion, and if anyone is not yet gripped by these desires, God will reveal it to them. And let us all advance together to reach this victory-prize, following one path with one passion.

Philippians 3:9-16 (TPT)

According to this passage, this is the path to maturity:

- To be consumed with Jesus
- Righteousness – to know what is right by God’s standards and not our own
- Long to know the wonders of Jesus
- Long to experience the overflowing power of His resurrection working through us
- To be one with Him
- Experience the absolute fullness of Jesus
- Run with passion into His abundance
- To reach the purpose for which He has given us life
- Depend on the strength of Christ not our own to accomplish this
- Fasten our focus on the future and not look back
- Gain the victory prize that God has invited us to obtain

Paul wanted this for himself but also for all of the people he served that they would have this same passion for these things. This is the heart of a true apostle. If passion is lacking then we should talk to God about it, so we all can come together with the same passion. We are to follow the one path with one passion to advance together to this one destination, the mature body of Christ advancing the Kingdom of God in the earth.

Happy maturing!!

