

I. Luke 2:40 And the Child (Jesus) grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

Luke 2:52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

A. The scriptures teach that Jesus grew and became strong in five areas of His life:

1. In **spirit**

2. in **wisdom**

3. in **grace**

4. in **stature**

5. in **favor** with God and man

a. Jesus determined that he would grow in each of these areas and put forth the necessary effort in order for it to come to pass

b. If we want to experience growth in these five areas we must make that decision, assume the responsibilities, apply the disciplines and then put forth the effort

c. Our spiritual growth is not God's decision, nor is it His responsibility

(1) God has given us: the Holy Spirit as our Helper:

(a) John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things,

(2) God has given us His word to guide & instruct us:

(a) Ps 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

(3) Jesus has made a new and living way whereby we have access to The throne of God & the things of God:

(a) Heb 10:20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,

(4) But the decision to access all of these things so we may grow and Mature spiritually is our personal decision

B. Today we are talking about growing in the anointing:

1. Lk 2:40 states that Jesus "**grew and became strong in spirit**"

a. we can say that Jesus continually grew in His anointing

2. We also can choose to grow in the anointing, or we can choose to remain on the level of anointing we currently have:

a. at the same time if we desire to see an increase of the anointing of God in and upon our life, it is going to require more on our part:

3. Let me give you a couple of reasons as to why it is important that we grow in the anointing of The Holy Spirit:

- a. The more we grow in the anointing: the more **fruit of victory** we will taste in life
- b. The more we grow in the anointing : the more **influence** you will have on earth....making you a greater threat to the kingdom of darkness

II. We can look at David's life and see how he went from strength to strength, increasing the anointing of God in & upon his life

A. David experienced three different anointings in his life and each one of these anointings took David to another level / plateau of victory & influence

1. **David was anointed in the midst of his brethren:**

a. 1 Sam 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.

2. **David was anointed over the house of Judah as king:**

a. 2 Sam 2:4 Then the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

(1) under this anointing David stepped into his first phase of being King and fulfilling the will of God for his life

3. **David was anointed over the whole house of Israel:**

a. 2 Sam 5: 3 Therefore all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD. And they anointed David king over Israel. 4 David as thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned Forty years. 5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.

(1) under this anointing David would enter into the fullness of the will of God and prophetic words spoken over his life

4. You will discover that as you pursue increasing the anointing of God in your life

a. Like David, you will experience degrees of increase in your anointing

b. and each degree of increased anointing carries with it your promotions God has in store for you

B. Have you ever wondered what caused David to grow in his anointing?

1. David grew in the anointing as he won battle after battle in life
 - a. David fought a lion & a bear
 - b. David fought a giant named Goliath
 - c. David fought his brethren, as their minds were poisoned in regards to him by King Saul
 - d. David fought the enemies of Israel

C. 2 Sam 3:1 Now there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. But David grew stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker.

1. Do you know **what the key was that caused the house of David to grow stronger and stronger**, and the house of Saul to grow weaker and weaker?
 - a. When David became King, the first thing he did was bring the **ark of the covenant** back into the city of Jerusalem
 - (1) The Ark of the Covenant represents the manifest presence of God, the presence & **anointing** of God dwelling in the midst of God's people
 - (2) 1 Chron 13:3 let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul.
 - (a) All the years Saul reigned as king, he never sought the presence of God, he attempted to reign as King without a fresh anointing upon his life

2. Rev 1:5 To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us **kings and priests** to His God and Father

Rev 5:10 And have made us **kings and priests** to our God;

And we shall reign on the earth."

- a. Jesus has made every Born Again believer a King & priest
- b. I pray that none of us are making the same mistake as King Saul
 - (1) attempting to reign in life as king without a fresh & increased anointing upon our life

III. Stop and examine your heart & take inventory of the anointing of God in your life:

A. Has it diminished

Are you in the same level of anointing for years

Is your anointing level increasing?

1. The bible teaches of **various levels of anointing & maturity** in:

Ezek 47:1-6

1 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar.

2 He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side.

3 And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the **water came up to my ankles**. 4 Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; the **water came up to my knees**. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; the **water came up to my waist**. 5 Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, **water in which one must swim**, a river that could not be crossed.

B. The waters / river is a type of the Holy Spirit & the anointing:

1. vs 1 speak of the “**door of the temple**”

a. A Prophetic picture of Jesus:

(1) Jn 10: 7 Jesus said: “**I am the door**”

(a) speaking of the New Birth....Jesus is the door unto God The Father

2. vs 1 “the waters issued out from under the **threshold of the door**”

a. where do these waters flow out from?

b. “**the threshold of the DOOR**”

(1) Jesus is the Door unto the living waters of the Holy Spirit

(2) Jesus will bring you unto the anointing of the Holy Ghost

(a) John 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

3. Next we discover that the **course of this river passes by the altar:**

a. Ezek 47:1 “ the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the **altar**.”

(1) **The altar is where the natural connects with the supernatural**

(2) **The Altar is the place where you can come & seek God & the baptism of the Holy Ghost**

(3) **The Altar is the place where a person may come in prayer unto God & seek The face of The Lord**

C. Ezek 47 reveals the four levels of spiritual maturity & the anointing

1. **Ankle Deep**: speaks of the beginning of the Christian Life and the

a. first level of the anointing

2. **Knee Deep**: the knee speaks of prayer
 - a. in entering into this second level of anointing Christians are learning to pray & develop a prayer life & dependence upon the power of God
3. **Waist Deep**: Can be related to the armor of God spoken of in Eph chapter six:
 - a. Eph 6:14 having girded your **loins / waist with truth**,
 - b. Truth said The Word of God is truth in Jn 17:17
 - (1) at waist deep spiritual waters the believer grounds their selves in good & sound doctrine
 - c. also **Loins represent the reproductive area**:
 - (1) as we get established in the truth of God's word: we become reproductive thru the anointing that dwells within us
4. **Waters to SWIM IN**: speaks of the believer flowing in the deeper things of God & the anointing

IV. Altar Call:

- A. If not Born Again:
 1. Come & drink of the living waters of eternal life
- B. If not Baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in Tongues
 1. Come and receive the Holy Spirit's baptism of power
- B. If saved & filled with the Spirit:
 1. What level of the anointing are you walking in?
 - a. ankle deep
 - knee deep
 - waist deep?
 - (1) if one of those three levels applies to you, it is time to receive an increase of the anointing in your life
 - (2) time to go deeper in the things of God & get into the spiritual waters of the anointing...that require us to swim in