Anointing

Scripture: 1 John 2:20

Series: Doctrine and Devotion: A Study in the First Epistle of John

Sunday, April 26, 2015

Corroborating Texts:



Overview

John describes spiritual dangers and bad things happening in his letter. We are forced to ask of ourselves, why have I not fallen away or become apostate? This answer is that we have been anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Discussion Questions

- 1. How does one become anointed with the Holy Spirit? How is this made possible spiritually?
- 2. What does it actually mean to be anointed by the Holy Spirit? What is different? What does it not mean? Why is it significant that we are anointed with the Holy Spirit? What should we do and how should we live differently because of it?
- 3. The Holy Spirit gives us **life** (*regeneration*). Contrast your state of spiritual death vs spiritual life in greater detail. What scriptures speak to this? [e.g. 2 Cor 5:17, John 5:24] As you go throughout your days, do you realize that you were once dead and now alive? Naturally, this inspires a holy gratitude in us. What else does it inspire in you?
- 4. The Holy Spirit gives us **purpose** (*consecration*). All life is now sacred and consecrated to the Lord for those in his church. How are we still tempted to separate the sacred from the secular in our lives? Are there specific areas you find hard to devote to God? Have you considered how _____ can glorify God? (e.g. sex life, work life, political activity, etc.) What are practical ways to help keep all of life in the right spiritual mindset?
- 5. The Holy Spirit gives us wisdom (*illumination*). What type of wisdom is needed in the context of John's letter? What is the purpose of this knowledge? Are there similar situations in the church today that would require Holy Spirit given knowledge and wisdom? What checks and balances are there to protect against heresy?
- 6. The Holy Spirit grows us (*sanctification*). Read II Thessalonians 2:13–15. What has caused our sanctification? [v.13] What is the ultimate purpose of our sanctification? [v. 14] How did Paul encourage the church at Thessalonica to live? [v.15] Can you recount specific experiences in life where God has grown your faith, love for him and love for other?
- 7. How is your community group furthering God's sanctifying work in your life? How should your community group be doing this?