

The Glorious Attributes of Our King

Isa 11:2-3 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. His delight is in the fear of the Lord.

Last Lord's Day we noted that Isaiah first introduces a coming King from the family of Jesse, explaining that He would be both "the stem from and the root of Jesse", thereby proclaiming this coming Ruler to be both "truly Man and truly God". Now Isaiah informs us of the glorious attributes of this coming King. We read that the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon Him, producing in Him, wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge and the fear of the Lord in which He will delight. We learn from this that the promised Messiah will be endowed with these excellent prophetic gifts and qualifications for His ministry by the anointing work of the Holy Spirit. This is indeed most proper since Scripture comes to us by prophets that were moved by the Holy Spirit as Peter wrote; ". . . *prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*" (2 Peter 1:21) and since God told Moses "*I will raise up a prophet like you . . . and I will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.*" (Deut 18:18) Therefore we can only conclude that it is only proper that this coming Messiah being both a King and a Prophet should be endowed in the same manner.

This raises the following questions which we shall consider this morning: 1. Since this one is Divine why does He stand in need of such anointing? 2. What are these glorious attributes with which He is endowed? And 3, Of what value are they to us?

A. Since this coming Messiah is of Divine nature why does He stand in need of such anointing?

1. Again we need be mindful that He is both truly God and truly Man.

a. He was to be a man descended from the line of David.

1 Chron 17:11-14 "And it shall be, when your days are fulfilled . . . I will set up your seed after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom . . . and I will establish his throne forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son; and I will not take My mercy away from him, as I took it from him who was before you. And I will establish him in My house and in My kingdom forever; and his throne shall be established forever."

b. Therefore as a man it is only proper that He should be furnished for His work by the agency of the Holy Spirit.

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

2. His human nature thereby was kept pure

a. His mind was made eminently wise

b. His heart always retained the fear and love of God

3. It is therefore not inconsistent to acknowledge that these extraordinary qualities were from God.

4. That as Man our Lord was thus under the influence of the Holy Spirit is abundantly taught in the New Testament.

a. At His baptism the Holy Spirit is represented as descending upon Him. (Matt. 3:16)

b. We are told that He was endowed by the Holy Spirit without measure.

"For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure."

c. And finally, we are told that in Him the fullness of the Godhead dwelt in Him. (Col. 1:19)

5. Finally the Spirit shall descend on him, and remain with him. - *The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him*

a. It shall not merely come upon him

b. This anointing shall continuously enable Him in His ministry

c. As promised by God the Father.

Isa 42:1 "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

d. As proclaimed by our Lord Himself.

Isa 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor

B. What are these glorious attributes with which He is endowed? - *the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight is in the fear of the Lord.*

1. The Spirit of wisdom and understanding

a. As the King eternal these are His judicial and governmental attributes

- b. How often our Lord silenced those who would question His authority
- c. We have the witness that no man ever spoke like this man
- d. And then finally we have Paul's proclamation that in Christ are hid "*all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*" Col 2:3

2. The Spirit of counsel and might

- a. The Spirit of counsel qualified Him as our counselor and instructor in things eternal

Matt 16:26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

1 Tim 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners

- b. The Spirit of might gave Him authority over all our enemies

Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

- c. He had power to lay down His life and take it up again - Jn 10:18

3. The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight is in the fear of the Lord.

- a. The knowledge and fear noted here consists in a reverence for the divine commands

Ps 111:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments

- b. An awareness of the seriousness of offending him

*Job 28:28 And to man He said, 'Behold, **the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to depart from evil is understanding.**'*

- c. And finally a desire, that is a delight to please him out of love which is true piety

Ps 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.

*Heb 12:2 Jesus - - - who for **the joy that was set before Him endured the cross**, despising the shame,*

*Prov 19:23 The fear of the Lord **leads to life**, and he who has it **will abide in satisfaction***

CONCLUSION: Of what value are they to us?

All that has been provided to Him, that is, all these attributes are for our benefit.

He blesses us with that spiritual blessing

*Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.***

He is our wisdom - in Him we truly know God - *1 Cor 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God.*

We have a royal counselor - *Isa 9:6 And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

The Spirit of might gave Him authority over all our enemies

We can go forth with authority proclaiming Christ to the world - *Matt 28:19 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations*

1 Peter 4:11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies

He conquered death in our behalf - *1 Cor 15:56-57 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Fear and knowledge - Christ is our ability to rightly know God.

Eph 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe.