

Golden Oil & The Anointed Ones

Let every soul note the importance of having a supply of oil. Fill your lamps with holy oil from the two olive trees. This oil is the symbol of the Holy Spirit, which is poured into the minds of believers, that they may be co-workers with heavenly agencies. ([1888 1761.2](#))

Historical Context

Intimately associated with Joshua, the high priest, was Zerubbabel, governor of Judea. It was under the leadership of these two men that the remnant of Israel returned at the close of the seventy years' captivity. They also led out in the re-establishment of the ancient worship at Jerusalem. In the second year of Cyrus, Zerubbabel laid the corner-stone of the temple. It was Zerubbabel and Joshua who, in response to the messages of the Lord through Haggai and Zechariah, "rose up," with courage renewed, and once more "began to build the house of God which is at Jerusalem." These men were true leaders, and "the spirit of all the remnant of the people" was largely influenced by the cheerful willingness with which they carried out the Lord's commands. [RH January 16, 1908, par. 1](#)

Immediately after Zechariah's vision of Joshua and the angel, given to the high priest as a personal testimony for his own encouragement and the encouragement of all the people of God, the prophet received a personal testimony regarding the work of Zerubbabel. "The angel that talked with me," Zechariah declares, "came again, and waked me, as a man that is waked out of his sleep, and said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof: and two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof. [RH January 16, 1908, par. 2](#)

"So I answered and spake to the Angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my Lord? ...Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.... [RH January 16, 1908, par. 3](#)

"Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof? And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? ... Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth." [RH January 16, 1908, par. 4](#) (quotes are from Zech. 4)

What are the 2 olive trees/branches?

From the two olive trees the golden oil was emptied through the golden pipes into the bowl of the candlestick, and thence into the golden lamps that gave light to the sanctuary. So from the holy ones that stand in God's presence his Spirit is imparted to the human instrumentalities who are consecrated to his service. The mission of the two anointed ones is to communicate to God's people that heavenly grace which alone can make his Word a lamp to the feet and a light to the path. [RH January 16, 1908, par. 5](#)

How else are the anointed ones defined?

What is the golden oil?

What are the golden lamps? (not clear in this paragraph)

How else is "Holy Spirit" referenced?

In rebuilding the house of the Lord, Zerubbabel had been encompassed with manifold difficulties. In former years, adversaries had "weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building," "and made them to cease by force and power." But the Lord interposed in behalf of the faithful builders, and now he speaks through his prophet, Zechariah, to Zerubbabel, saying, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it." [RH January 16, 1908, par. 6](#)

Throughout the history of God's people, great mountains of difficulty, apparently insurmountable, have loomed up before those who were advancing in the opening providences of God. Such obstacles to progress are permitted by the Lord as a test of faith. When hedged about on every side, this is the time above all others to trust in God and in the power of his Holy Spirit. We are not to walk in our own strength, but in the strength of the Lord God of Israel. It is folly to trust in man or to make flesh our arm. We must trust in Jehovah; for in him is everlasting strength. The One who, in response to words and deeds of faith, made the way plain before his servant Zerubbabel, is able to clear away every obstacle devised by Satan to hinder the progress of his cause. Through the exercise of persevering faith, every mountain of difficulty may be removed. RH January 16, 1908, par. 7

Sometimes God trains his workers by bringing to them disappointment and apparent failure. It is his purpose that they shall learn to master difficulty. He seeks to inspire them with a determination to make every apparent failure prove a success. RH January 16, 1908, par. 8

Oftentimes men pray and weep because of the perplexities and obstacles that confront them. But if they will hold the beginning of their confidence steadfast unto the end, God will make their way clear. Success will come to them as they struggle against apparently insurmountable difficulties; and with success will come the greatest joy. RH January 16, 1908, par. 9

This was true of Zerubbabel; and for his encouragement he was given, through Zechariah, the assurance: "The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto you. For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel, with those seven; they are the eyes of the Lord, which run to and fro through the whole earth." [RH January 16, 1908, par. 10](#)

[Haggai 2:9](#) The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

Deeper Study

As the olive trees empty themselves into the golden pipes, so the heavenly messengers seek to communicate all that they receive from God. The whole heavenly treasure awaits our demand and reception; and as we receive the blessing, we in our turn are to impart it. Thus it is that the holy lamps are fed, and the church becomes a light bearer in the world. [TM 510.1](#)

To what is the sanctuary likened?

What is another phrase used for the anointed ones?

The golden lamps are also called _____

The anointed ones standing by the Lord of the whole earth have the position once given to Satan as covering cherub. By the holy beings surrounding His throne, the Lord keeps up a constant communication with the inhabitants of the earth. The golden oil represents the grace with which God keeps the lamps of believers supplied, that they shall not flicker and go out. Were it not that this holy oil is poured from heaven in the messages of God's Spirit, the agencies of evil would have entire control over men. —[The Review and Herald, July 20, 1897, par. 6](#) (more about communication between heaven & earth in the "Mystic Ladder" study)

Who are the holy golden lamps?

Who are the anointed ones?

Note: golden oil, previously defined as "Holy Spirit" and "heavenly grace" represents "the grace..."

How is the pouring out of this oil further described?

Who pours the "messages of God's Spirit" "out of themselves" and "into the minds of believers"?

And when these angels empty from themselves the golden oil of truth into the heart of him who is teaching the word, then the application of the truth will be a solemn, serious matter. [11LtMs, Lt 29, 1896, par. 17](#)

Another description of grace/Holy Spirit is _____

[John 17:17](#) Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

[2 Timothy 2:15](#) Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

"Through the golden pipes, the olive-branches empty the golden oil out of themselves. These olive-branches are the anointed ones that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. Through them the Holy Spirit is communicated to the churches. Thus heaven and earth are united. The power that is in heaven unites with human intelligences." RH May 16, 1899, par. 4

By whom is "the Holy Spirit ... communicated...?"

Through the ministry of the angels, the Holy Spirit is enabled to work upon the mind and heart of the human agent, and draw him to Christ, who has paid the ransom money for his soul, that the sinner may be rescued from the slavery of sin and Satan. YI July 5, 1894, par. 5

As the light of Christ is received into the soul, the spirit is softened. The gentleness of Christ is expressed in the life. The personal influence of the humble, consecrated soul, like the fragrance of a flower, extends far beyond himself. There is something about him that does not consist in display. It is a spiritual power which he receives from the two anointed ones that stand before the Lord of the whole earth. The Holy Spirit, coming from God to the instrumentality He employs, flows forth into other lives, making others labourers together with God. AUCR June 1, 1900, par. 49

Another description of grace/Holy Spirit is _____

It was the golden oil emptied by the heavenly messengers into the golden tubes, to be conducted from the golden bowl into the lamps of the sanctuary, that produced a continuous bright and shining light. It is the love of God continually transferred to man that enables him to impart light. Into the hearts of all who are united to God by faith the golden oil of love flows freely, to shine out again in good works, in real, heartfelt service for God. COL 418.5

Another description of grace/Holy Spirit is _____

"... They must have His grace, the Spirit of Christ, to help their infirmities, or they cannot resist evil... Strength and grace have been provided through Christ to be brought by ministering angels to every believing soul..." SC 52.2-3

All who engage in the work of winning souls will themselves be constantly educated by the Holy Spirit to a clearer understanding of the word, as they communicate to others the light God has given them. The gracious utterances of the word are the holy golden oil, emptied from the two olive branches into the hearts of all who are prepared as vessels, cleansed to receive the heavenly treasure. 14LtMs, Ms 57, 1899, par. 10

These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the lord of the whole earth" [Zechariah 4:11-14]. 16MR 296.3 These empty themselves into the golden bowls, which represent the hearts of the living messengers of God, who bear the word of the Lord to the people in warnings and entreaties. The word itself must be as represented, the golden oil, emptied from the two olive trees that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. This is the baptism by the Holy Spirit with fire. This will open the soul of unbelievers to conviction. The wants of the soul can be met only by the working of the Holy Spirit of God. Man can of himself do nothing to satisfy the longings and meet the aspirations of the heart. 16MR 297.1

What do the golden bowls represent?

What does the golden oil here represent?

John 6:63 "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Also see: Psalm12:6;119:140; Deuteronomy8:3; Matthew4:4; Ephesians6:17;

When as in the case of the foolish virgins, they find their lamps going or gone out, faith and love and knowledge of God and the truth have left them, as water leaves a leaky vessel. We may have this holy oil; we must have it. It must be emptied from the holy olive trees... EA 338.1

What does the golden oil here represent?

Here is the explanations of the olive trees. They take of the Holy Spirit of God, and empty the holy oil out of themselves into the clean, pure, sanctified souls that are prepared to receive it. This is the kind of oil that the wise virgins had, oil that one could not communicate to another. Each individual must prepare his soul for himself through humbleness of mind, by wearing Christ's yoke and learning of Him. 13LtMs, Lt 108, 1898, par. 11

Warning, Duty, Promise, & Encouragement

We may have long followed the narrow path, but it is not safe to take this as proof that we shall follow it to the end. If we have walked with God in fellowship of the Spirit, it is because we have sought Him daily by faith. From the two olive trees the golden oil flowing through the golden pipes has been communicated to us. But those who do not cultivate the spirit and habit of prayer cannot expect to receive the golden oil of goodness, patience, long-suffering, gentleness, love.

Every one is to keep himself separate from the world, which is full of iniquity... There must be a firm continuance, a perseverance in acts of faith. We are to praise God, to show forth his glory in a righteous character. No one of us will gain the victory without persevering, untiring effort, proportionate to the value of the object which we seek, even eternal life. [RH March 2, 1897, par. 11-12](#)

Another description of golden oil:

(otherwise known as the fruit of the Spirit)

Let the preacher be full of the Word of the Lord. Let every man who enters the pulpit know that he has angels from heaven in his audience. And when these angels empty from themselves the golden oil of truth into the heart of him who is teaching the word, then the application of the truth will be a solemn, serious matter. The angel messengers will expel sin from the heart, unless the door of the heart is padlocked and Christ is refused admission. Christ will withdraw Himself from those who persist in refusing the heavenly blessings that are so freely offered them. [11LtMs, Lt 29, 1896, par. 17](#)

Who "will expel sin"?

... The tidings of joy and hope must come from heaven. Learn, O, learn of Jesus what it means to abide in Christ! [11LtMs, Lt 29, 1896, par. 18](#)

If the Christian minister receives the golden oil, he has life, and where there is life there is no stagnation, no dwarfed experience. There is constant growth to the full stature of Christ Jesus. If we have a deep, growing experience in heavenly things, we walk with the Lord as did Enoch. Instead of consenting to the propositions of Satan, there is most earnest prayer for the heavenly anointing, that we may distinguish the right, the heaven-born, from the common. [11LtMs, Lt 29, 1896, par. 19](#)

If we are fighting in the strength of the Mighty One, we are on the side that will win at last. In the end we shall conquer. The greatest work, the most perilous scenes, are before us. The deadly conflict we must meet. Are we prepared for it? ... [11LtMs, Lt 29, 1896, par. 20](#)

There is cheap religion in abundance, but there is no such thing as cheap Christianity. Self may figure largely in a false religion but it cannot appear in Christian experience. "Ye are workers together with God." [[1 Corinthians 3:9.](#)] "Without me," said Christ, "ye can do nothing." [[John 15:5.](#)] We cannot be shepherds of the flock unless we are divested of our own peculiar habits, manners, and customs, and come into Christ's likeness. When we eat His flesh and drink His blood, then the element of eternal life will be found in the ministry. There will not be a fund of stale, oft-repeated ideas. There will be a new perception of truth. [11LtMs, Lt 29, 1896, par. 21](#)

The Word is the preacher's light, and as the golden oil empties from the heavenly olive trees into the bowl, it makes the lamp of life flash with a clearness and power that all will discern. Those who have the privileges of sitting under such a ministry will, if their hearts are susceptible to the Holy Spirit's influence, feel an inner life. The fire of God's love will be kindled within them. The Bible, the Word of God, is the bread of life. He who feeds the flock of God must himself first eat of the bread which came down from heaven. He will see the truth on every side... [11LtMs, Lt 29, 1896, par. 22](#)

I was given a message to bear, and it was this, that if those before me would prepare the way for God to work by humbling their hearts before Him, and confessing their sins and errors, if they would empty their hearts of everything that was not in harmony with the principles of the truth, the Lord would commission the two olive branches to empty through the two golden pipes the golden oil out of themselves into the vessels or hearts prepared for them. "These are the two anointed ones that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. ... Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." [[Zechariah 4:14, 6.](#)] [13LtMs, Lt 86, 1898, par. 8](#)