

Acts 10:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Analysis

Peter testified: 'How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.' The anointing with the Spirit (at Jesus' baptism) equipped Christ for His messianic ministry. Peter summarized Jesus' earthly work - doing good, healing, and liberating those oppressed by Satan. This demonstrates Christ's power over demonic forces and His compassionate ministry. Reformed Christology maintains that Christ's human nature, though sinless, needed the Spirit's empowerment for ministry, modeling Spirit-dependence for all ministry.

Historical Context

Jesus' ministry occurred circa AD 27-30 throughout Galilee, Judea, and surrounding regions. His healing and deliverance ministry demonstrated the kingdom of God breaking into Satan's domain (Luke 11:20). Peter and the apostles were eyewitnesses to these works (v.39).

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How did the Spirit's anointing equip Jesus for His messianic ministry?
2. What does Jesus' healing ministry reveal about the kingdom of God?
3. How does Christ's victory over demonic oppression give hope to those suffering spiritual oppression today?

Interlinear Text

Ἰησοῦν τὸν ἀπὸ Ναζαρέτ ὡς ἔχρισεν αὐτοῦ ὁ θεὸς
Jesus ^{G2424} ^{G3588} **of** ^{G575} **Nazareth** ^{G3478} **How** ^{G5613} **anointed** ^{G5548} **him** ^{G846} ^{G3588} **God** ^{G2316}

πνεύματι ἁγίῳ καὶ δυνάμει ὃς διῆλθεν εὐεργετῶν
Ghost ^{G4151} **with the Holy** ^{G40} **and** ^{G2532} **with power** ^{G1411} ^{G3739} **went about** ^{G1330} **doing good** ^{G2109}

καὶ ἰώμενος πάντας τοὺς καταδυναστευομένους ὑπὸ τοῦ
and ^{G2532} **healing** ^{G2390} **all** ^{G3956} ^{G3588} **that were oppressed** ^{G2616} **of** ^{G5259} ^{G3588}

διαβόλου ὅτι ὁ θεὸς ἦν μετ' αὐτοῦ
the devil ^{G1228} **for** ^{G3754} ^{G3588} **God** ^{G2316} **was** ^{G2258} **with** ^{G3326} **him** ^{G846}

Additional Cross-References

Luke 4:18 (Spirit): The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Acts 2:22 (References Jesus): Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

Isaiah 11:2 (Spirit): And 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;

John 3:34 (Spirit): For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

Hebrews 1:9 (References God): Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Psalms 45:7 (Evil): Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

John 3:2 (References Jesus): The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

Matthew 12:28 (Spirit): But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

Luke 3:22 (Holy): And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

Isaiah 42:1 (Spirit): Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.