

Exodus 40:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that is therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy.

Analysis

The anointing oil (הַמִּשְׁחָה, shemen haMishchah) consecrating the tabernacle and all its vessels teaches that implements, not just people, require consecration. The Hebrew משְׁחָה (mashach, to anoint) means to smear/spread, indicating complete covering. This anointing 'sanctifies' (מְקִדְשָׁה, vekidashta, makes holy) by separating common items for sacred use. The oil symbolizes the Holy Spirit consecrating believers (2 Corinthians 1:21-22; 1 John 2:20, 27). Christ, the Anointed One (Messiah/Christos), received the Spirit without measure (John 3:34), qualifying Him as Prophet, Priest, and King.

Historical Context

The unique anointing oil recipe (Exodus 30:23-33), using myrrh, cinnamon, cane, cassia, and olive oil, was restricted to tabernacle use only. Duplicating it for common purposes carried the death penalty, emphasizing sacred distinctiveness. The oil's fragrance filled the tabernacle, symbolizing holiness permeating everything.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does anointing inanimate objects teach that all aspects of worship, not just 'spiritual' ones, require consecration?
2. What does Christ's anointing with the Spirit qualifying Him for ministry teach about believers' need for Spirit-empowerment?

Interlinear Text

וְלֹא תִּחְתַּטְתָּ		אֶת	מִן	שֶׁ	הַמְשָׁבֵט	וְמִשְׁחָתָת	אֶת	אֶת	בְּמִשְׁבֵּט
And thou shalt take	H853	oil		the anointing		and anoint	H853	the tabernacle	
H3947		H8081		H4888		H4886		H4908	
בְּ וְ אֲשֶׁר כֹּל				וְלֹא תִּשְׁתַּחַט					וְאֶת אֶת זֶה
H853	H3605	H834	H0	and all that is therein	and shalt hallow		H853	H853	
				H6942					
כֹּל				וְלֹא תִּשְׁתַּחַט					
H3605	it and all the vessels	H1961	thereof						
	H3627		בְּזִיה						
							H6944		

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 8:10 (Holy): And Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that was therein, and sanctified them.

Numbers 7:1 (Holy): And it came to pass on the day that Moses had fully set up the tabernacle, and had anointed it, and sanctified it, and all the instruments thereof, both the altar and all the vessels thereof, and had anointed them, and sanctified them;