

For the building, there is the oil. And as the oil is poured upon the stone, the more that stone is built and transformed, and so it becomes precious stone. The oil is poured on the Head; Jesus Christ is the high priest. He is from the line of Aaron, and he's from the line of Melchizedek. He is the high priest. And we are priests too; we're priests from here down. We are the corporate man. The oil is poured upon Him and comes down upon us. The oil is upon the tabernacle; the oil is upon everything.

Then in 2 Corinthians 1, it says we have the Anointing One establishing us and building us together. The anointing is for the establishing and the building. Paul said you are a group of people gathered together, and I build you up so that you can edify one another. Until you can what? Until you are built up and every joint supplies, until the church is expressing the all-inclusiveness of Christ, for in Him and His work in death and resurrection and ascension is everything you will ever need if you are here in this town for a hundred years. All of the working of the anointing in you will supply everything.

Now, brothers and sisters, you have to learn a little bit about the anointing. It sounds great until right now, doesn't it? Praise the Lord, it sounds really great. I've got the anointing in me, and I don't need anyone to teach me. Well, the anointing is dependent upon the building. John said, "You have the anointing in you to teach you, and you need nothing else to guide you; you need no other teacher. And in Him is reality. Alright, brother, I also would say to you that the anointing is the law. The living law. You remember in Romans 8, it says, "The law of life, which is greater than the law of sin and the law of Moses." The law of myself to do good. There is a law written into you. The anointing is also the regulation, and this is where the building begins. It's the regulator.

Now, brother, you want to be built? The first thing you have to do is you have to begin now paying attention to the anointing. And the first thing that works is the death. The negative. And we shall have to have the death, the negative. The working of the anointing in you that teaches you.

You know me. You come and you make a plan. I'm going to buy a new car. My old car is worn out. I have the money to make the down payment. I need a car, and here is a good car at a bargain. Everything is reasonable, right? And you go down there to buy it. Everything seems fine, but then you begin to get an uneasiness within you. You get an uneasiness within you. You've had this as a young Christian. Ever since you found the Lord, you've had this. But you perhaps have not understood it, for there's an uneasiness within you, a restlessness. Look, if I had some oil here, and I take the oil, the oil was always a symbol, not only of the Holy Spirit, but of something that is poured on for working into, oil can penetrate the skin. I take oil and I begin to rub it, and it goes into the man. And it goes into him. You sense the same; it's just like this; that's the only way I can describe it. The anointing is kind of being poured, and it's kind of working like this. And it's so mild, you can hardly believe that it could be the overcoming life. So quiet, but it just works. And you begin to be taught. Oh, you look for the day when no one needs to come and teach you, praise the Lord, but brother, how willing are you to be taught? And when you look at that big car or even that little car, and you look at your money, everything seems reasonable, but you need no one to

teach you, for you have the anointing that teaches you everything. And this is the first teaching of the anointing. Brother, you have to go along with it. You have to go along with it! You don't have to, but brother, I will tell you this: you will lose the sense of the anointing when you do. Go against Him, and you lose the sense.

I confess to you, I have a constant battle with the anointing all the time when I drive a car. I got in the car when I grew up, as a young person, I did like everyone else, only I lived in Texas, where everything was spaced out, the speed limit was 60 when I was young and says 70 today. I drove 70. If it had read 70, I would have gone 80, but brother, when I get in the car today and I begin to drive, all the wildness of my driving as a youth, I don't mean that I was so very, very wild, but I think all Texans drive wild to be quite straight with you. I really do. I think they're the wildest drivers in America. And I go along, and I am driving, and I'm in a rush, and the speed limit is 35 miles an hour, and I'm going 40, and I want you to know that there is an anointing within. You say, "Oh, really?" You bet, brother. You just be sure the Lord is anointing. There is the anointing to teach us. No, brothers, I don't have to do that, but I break fellowship with the Lord if I don't. I come back down to the limit. You say you've never had anything like that. You do too! You do too. Yes, you do. You know. You know. Every one of you in this room, you know. There is the negative work.

Brother, when the Lord gets through transforming you, you're not going to recognize yourself. He will change so many things about you. I'm not going to tell you what anything is. I can only tell you that you have an anointing and the Lord wants to more and more pour that anointing into you and work in you, but his first work is the work of the death, and you have to go along with him.

You go into the department store. Look at it. It's full of stuff. And you come to buy something. You have to sense the anointing. Do you have the anointing? You have to go along with it. If you feel a check, that's the anointing of the Lord. You have to go along with it.

(Question)

Well, all right. Brother, you have to go along with your sense. You have to go along with what you sense. Here's something, and everything is reasonable about it, but I'm uneasy. I'm just uneasy, so what do I do? I either recognize this as the anointing, it's teaching me, and I put it down, or if I'm not sure, brother, you may look a little ridiculous, you just stand there, "Oh Lord. Lord, I agree with you." Brother, I cannot tell you, and this takes some learning, this takes some going along, this takes some work of the Lord. Don't get hung up; go along with the Lord. He knows you're not perfect. Where is your consecration? Which way are you headed? If you don't understand, go ahead and buy. If you say, Edwards has got me under the heat, I don't have you under the heat. You go on and buy it. You get home and put it on the counter. Be sure and save the cashier's receipt. And just how do you feel?

I'll tell you, one day, I used to have a record player. I bought a record. That was a good record. It was classical music. Out of, I think, Poland, real class, this is the only kind of music

I appreciate. I bought it, and I had a check. I had a check. Well, this is Edwards. I took it, bought it, and went home, but I couldn't open it. I cannot tell you, brothers, how much the Lord will teach us. I went home, and I got the itch. I got home to turn the record player on. I started to open the record, and I could not open it. I put it down. After a while, I tried again. I could not. There was something inside me. I picked it up and went down to the drugstore, and I said, "Will you take this back?" And they said no. Brothers, the package has never been opened. It's still there. I can't take it back, but it's never been played. It's still in the plastic. I have to go along with the Lord.

Now, brother, that's the death. I do not tell you what it will be. I only say to you, as we begin to experience the Lord, he is a two-edged sword. He cuts this way, and he cuts that way. He cuts this way, and he cuts back at us. He is both negative, and He is positive. I am not putting you under the heat. Don't you go off and say Edwards has got us under the heat. I have not got you under the heat. I am telling you that there is something within you that is a law that teaches all things. And as you obey that teaching, as you obey the anointing, the working of the Lord within you, you are built. The joints begin to tie together.

Brother, let it be at peace. If you cannot buy a tube of toothpaste, don't buy a tube of toothpaste, but don't you ever come in a meeting and tell anybody not to buy a tube of toothpaste. The best thing is don't even tell them about this situation. It just may be the Lord is just showing you something. This is the negative. And brother, five minutes ago you looked real happy. What happened? You are just all ready for the teaching. Brother, are you willing to be taught in all things? Teach you all things? Brother, I know it because I have been there, and I am still there. I am still there, still being regulated constantly, the inner regulation of the inner anointing, the anointing that is within us. Well, then there is the anointing, the real anointing of the resurrection, when we go along with the Lord.

Let's say that you put the package back. Oh, I got to return it. And you return it. And you walk out of there and you say, wait a minute, the Lord is teaching me a whole new sense of values. Praise God. I never saw this before. I'm meek. I mean, I'm learning meekness. I'm learning to be sensitive to him. I'm getting under His headship. The oil is pouring down, and you'll go out, oh, Lord, Praise your name. Thank you, Lord, that wasn't worth it; it wasn't even interesting. And then, brother, a day or two later, something else comes along. Something that has always stumbled you, something you know, you've always known, you just know it's not there, it's not for the children of the Lord. And you come up to this matter again, and suddenly, because you obeyed the anointing here in a little thing, suddenly, there is the sense of the life that's in this anointing. Not only the resurrection, but the ascension. And you thank God that He has given you a victory and taken this thing away from you. And you say, Oh, Hallelujah! Praise God! This is the anointing that works in you.

Now, brother, the teaching; that's the negative teaching. This is the work of the Lord, this is the death, and this is also the resurrection. It's the cross and it's the resurrection. Now, brothers and sisters, as you are built up together, and as you are edified, there will then come another stage, and that's the real sensing of the direction of the Lord. You'll come one day, and you'll feel you don't understand something. And you'll come to the brothers, but

even as you are going on your way to talk to the brothers, suddenly you know. You know clearly what to do. You recognize the working of the anointing in you, and you just know. Brothers and sisters, there is a knowing for Christians. There is a knowing. I have so appreciated the ministry of brother Watchman Nee, and it has taught and humbled me so often. I have heard brothers and sisters tell of coming to Brother Nee, and they would say, Brother Nee, I need some guidance, and they would explain to Brother Nee what it was. And you know what his answer often would be? Oh, this man not only had faith, but he also had real courage to believe the Lord. He had real faith and courage to believe the Lord. He would say, Sister, you know; brother, you know. I want you to know that you know; you do know. You do know, now, don't you? You do know. You say, Gene, I just don't know. Alright then, brother, go ahead and do it. Don't you be in bondage. Don't you be in bondage for a moment. Just go do it, and the Lord will build. Either way, the Lord will build. Go do it. It is all right to go do it. You have been doing it all this time anyway; just go do it some more, but just sense the anointing, and out of it will come the teaching.

Brother, even when you lose, He wins! Brother, even when you cannot obey him, He will win anyway. He will still teach you. He'll teach you if you go along with him, and he'll teach you if you don't go along with Him. And if you don't know for sure because you're a young brother in Christ, you go do what you want to do, and then later, you'll be able to say, Praise the Lord, now I see that was the anointing. Or you'll say, Praise the Lord, I'm beginning to see what is and what isn't. So just go on, but brother and sister, there is an anointing.

Now, we go on. There's another stage. Oh, hallelujah, thank God there's another stage. Brothers and sisters come into the meeting. Brothers, the meetings themselves. Can you not be taught right now by the Holy Spirit? Yes, you know what's proper in the meeting, don't you? You already know. Alright? You want to be built up together? You want to be taught all things? You want no man to teach you? You want to be utterly under the headship of the Lord? Go along with what you already know. Just go along with what you already know. You already know it, go along with it. You come into a meeting. You sense the meeting needs to get off strong, but you're kind of backward. I am too. Even today, when I walk into the meeting, I am reluctant to really exercise my spirit. You know why I am? You know why? Somebody will feel that I'm leading the meetings, so I'm reluctant. You have to realize, brothers and sisters, the greatest thing I want to do in Goleta is never see it again. You have to realize that everything I do here, it is to leave. Oh, maybe come back and visit, sure. I certainly will, because there is that comradeship, the brotherhood, but the greatest thing I want to do in this town is get out of it. I want to leave that place and never have to come back. But if I start the meeting, it is not to be your leader, but it is to be strong in what I know the Lord wants, and you know it too.

Right now, in the meeting today, when we first got started, I really had the sense that there were brothers and sisters who would have liked to announce the hymn or said something of the Lord, and didn't. And when we come to silence, I really believe that there are sisters and brothers in here who would like to pray. You have a prayer. According to 1 Corinthians 12, you have a prayer. God gives a prayer. You would like to pray, but you have that outer self-

consciousness, right? Is this, am I, am I correct? For one thing, you don't know how to pray. Lord, I thank you for being so wonderful. Lord, I thank you for being so wonderful. That's the way Edwards does it. You don't know how to do it, and you don't know whether to pray with your eyes open or closed or bowed. And then the thing that really bothers you is, after you pray, you're afraid somebody's going to laugh at you, but I want to say that the other brothers and sisters in the meeting also have to be under the anointing. If someone is trying to exercise their spirit, it is not a proper thing to laugh. Here's a brother really trying it. It may be the last time he'll ever try if he doesn't get some help. So, when that sister or brother prays, what is your real sense? I don't know, but I will say this to you. I know what my sense is. That brother is fighting a battle to get from him without. He is fighting to be in this meeting, to exercise his human spirit. He is fighting to enter in. He wants to really have something precious of the Lord, and my silence at his struggle is a loss to him.

And it's my holding back from the building. So, when he prayed, I just want to say amen. I may not have clearly even heard what he said. I'm sure I don't know what he really means deep in his spirit, but I can say amen, I can help that brother. And if I can't say amen, I can go, ah. I can do something to show that I am standing with that sister and being built with that sister. If she has the sense to pray, then I have to stand with that sense and back it up.

Sisters and brothers, it's good to sing. Praise God, it's good. Hallelujah. I praise the Lord that you can announce different hymns. That's wonderful. I praise the Lord that you can give a testimony, but brothers and sisters, the battle is in the prayer. The battle is in the prayer. Well, then, how do we pray? Brothers, again, I will tell you right now, you have the sense of how to pray. You listen to yourselves pray. And you will really be touched by the Lord. Oh, Lord, thank you that we just see here today that we are offering up praises to thee. Lord, I thank you, and we just want to go...and about that time, you have a sense that you are just talking now because you didn't know how to quite quit. You know why, brother, it's our background, this awful background of ours. We've never heard prayer that quit when the Spirit quit. Is this not true? We have to be wordy. The Holy Spirit can teach us all things that we will say. I will say to you again, most prayers, this doesn't have to be; this is not a legal thing, brother, a prayer can be long. If you don't believe that, someday you just watch, you will see a long prayer, utterly under the anointing, completely under the teaching and direction of the anointed one, the anointing of the anointed one, but most prayer will be very short. You see something, it's there, there's the stir, the inner echo, you know it's there. Brother, don't sit there quiet, give it, immediately, out quick, fast, living, and just say it. And then let it go. You don't even have to say in Jesus' name. Brother, you are praying in Jesus' name. When He gives something within you, let it fly, and then when it's over, let it be over. I'm not really interested in your pretty prayers; nobody else is. All we're interested in is the life that is in you, so brothers, there could be an echoing, and not only an echoing, but a response to everything that is sensed within. When you pray, pray by the echo as much as possible, but don't wait for the echo; go and begin praying, and then pray with the echo. And in the meeting, when you have something to give, give it, whether it be a song, give it. Whether it be a testimony, give it, but especially if you sense something of the Lord inside of you, put it into a prayer and offer it to the Lord. And this need not be anything, but "Lord, I

thank you that you are a life-giving spirit.” Somebody else has to say, “That’s right, He is not just a man, He is Spirit, Hallelujah.” And then somebody else remembers, “Oh Lord, the second Adam wasn’t like the first Adam, one was a soul, the other one’s spirit. Hallelujah.” Well, that’s not very much, but it’s just something you sense, give it.

A little building. Look where we’ve come. We have to live with a sword that cuts to the left. We have to live also with the sword that cuts to the right. As you pray together, my real burden is that the brothers and sisters will talk less and pray more. I do not say how you must pray, but I say to you, you must pray. When you come together in the morning, don’t talk a whole lot; just start praying. And when you have a burden, and you come to a brother to fellowship so that you might really get clear on the Lord’s leadership and guidance in you, so that you might really sense the anointing clearly. After you have fellowshipped a little bit, brothers, don’t be taken up with the details of the matter.

I’m sitting here and listening to this brother. ... and I have this experience. I remember five years ago, I was told this, and there’s this illustration, and then I gave all this all out to the brother. Oh, brother, just sit there and read him as a living epistle. Read him, listen, go along with it. Enter into his burden. This will grow. This will grow. You say, Gene, we’re just not ready for this. Brother, you’re never going to get ready if you don’t start. You have to start, then maybe just a little sense within you to say something. Brother, I don’t think it’ll be much, I really don’t, and most of what you will say will be something of Christ. Well, women are supposed to submit themselves to their husbands as unto the Lord, and here it means as unto the Lord this and this and this, that we submit, and the husband is to love the wife, and he doesn’t have to love you, and you don’t have to love him. And you go and you explain all this, and when you get through, it’s a heap of knowledge. No, just listen and then brothers, pray. Just come before the Lord. You say, “What do I pray?” What do you pray? I don’t know. I don’t know any more precious words than, “O, Lord.”. This brother’s got a problem. He needs four or five or ten or fifteen or twenty words to express one little part of it.

...Then, if you want to say more than that, say, “Lord, this dear brother needs someone to sign his note, his father wrote him and said that he wouldn’t.” Go ahead and pray that, if that’s your burden. but pray a lot and talk a little, and the Lord will begin to bring you into Christ. Then, brothers, out of this, I do believe that the day will come, maybe right soon, I don’t know when. This brother will just be before the Lord with the brothers and sisters; he will be praying with them, singing with them, and fellowshipping with them. And I believe this brother will be driving down the street, fellowshipping with the Lord. And suddenly he will have a real, a real, I use this word carefully, a real revelation. For him, it’ll be a revelation. I’m not talking about the end of the world or anything else, but you will see something you have never seen before.

Brother, it may be that in that moment, the Lord may recover something in you that the church has not seen that has been lost throughout the century. And it may be that that brother will come into the meeting, and we will say, “Brother, let’s hear it.” It will be something new in life. It won’t be legal; it won’t be doctrine. And he will sit here, and he will share something with the brothers and sisters. It may take a minute, it may take an hour,

but the Spirit of the Lord, the anointing within that teaching, all things will teach you through this brother. It won't be everything on earth through this brother, but it will be something. There will come a time when a problem will arise in the church that no other church in the history of the world has ever had, brother, and you will come up against it and you will fast and you will pray and you will beseech the Lord and you will keep the unity come what may and the Lord out of it will give you an understanding upon this earth that no other church ever had about how to deal with this problem and you will need no man.

Well, for instance, someone may come in, and you don't know how to deal with them. What do you do? Brother, you may find that all you can do is just be in the meeting and wait on the Lord. And the Lord will subdue them. Or it may be that they will not be subdued. And this is such a rare thing, I've never even heard of it. Look, you just have to wait on the Lord. And the Lord eventually works something out that no man can realize.

I know one church had a real problem about where it would meet and how it would meet. It had a problem that was unsolvable. And there was nothing to do but wait, and suddenly, the city passed an ordinance that completely redid the entire town. I mean, it completely reconstructed the city, and the problem was solved. Praise the Lord. God is sovereign over His Church.

Then, brothers and sisters, there will be more. I think you know where I'm going; there will be more. There will come real understanding. The body will come up against something, and there will be so much experience and life behind you that you'll just know. The Lord will teach you.

Then there will come a day when there is real ministry. Maybe brother, there will come up, but it'll be a long time of work of the Lord in you as you minister to Him, that the Lord will really raise up something in this church, but it will be so meek. It will be so meek; it will be so meek, and it will be so bridled. It will be so subdued that it will not distract the church. Say, "Oh, look, the church here has the gift of healing. Wow! Let's invite all the other churches here to get healed. No. No. That's fleshly, but know just a sense that here is something of the Lord. And then we have it, and then we realize we have to drop it. No, we're not going to camp around this and have a golden calf. We'll have it, we'll drop it, and we'll go on with the Lord. We know, we know now to follow him and not be distracted. Then the things that come as the church grows richer and richer, the Lord gives everything that is in the church mentioned in the scripture: He gives the body, but it comes slowly and gradually as the anointing is followed, submitted to, and as the body builds itself up little by little, little by little, following the unction of the Holy Spirit, going along with the inner anointing, and knowing the cross and the death of the self, knowing the resurrection and knowing the ascension.

But brothers and sisters, I have to leave this matter with you. I cannot say anymore, because there is no more to be said. There is One in you, the Holy Spirit, who has the working of death and resurrection and ascension far above all. As best you can, right now, go along with it, and when you cannot go along, then don't go along; He'll still teach you all things,

and when you do not have the sensing of him, sit down and wait, but if the fellowship is broken, just ask the Lord to cover you again. To give you the sense of the covering of His blood that you might sense His anointing. That you might sense His anointing and go along with Him. The oil will pour down from the Head, and the body will be built up, and you will need no man to teach you. The Lord Himself will teach you all things.

Now I am going to say again what I have said so many times. Then God will have what He wants, a group of people who sing and pray, live and talk and breathe by the Lord Jesus Christ, who have no human head and yet have no need or lack, but rather they have a super-abundance of an oversupply. And those that come in your midst will see something unlike this world has seen; they will see a group of people being taught by the living Lord.

Well, brothers and sisters, this is what the Lord wants to recover. This is my main burden for you. What we had last night and what we had today is my real burden, that God might have this kind of church. I believe you are ready to go along with it; I believe you are ready. Then let us begin to learn to sense the anointing and go with Him for the building.