

ANOINTING OIL

We see in scripture that the palm of the hand is considered a cup. When you think of “my cup runneth over” it is talking about anointing oil poured in the palm of someones left hand for healing. **Ps. 23:5** *Thou dost prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; Thou hast anointed my head with oil; **My cup overflows**”*

In ancient times anointing and essential oils were used all the time. They were likened to what we call perfume today. In actuality when one puts perfume on they are anointing themselves. The idea was simple; the oil was used to produce a pleasant fragrance emanating from you, to entreat whatever lord you followed, so you would receive his favor. It was a copy of the incense and sacrifices used on the temple altar to lift up to Yah for His favor representing the prayers of the saints. At that time these oils could be made out of almost any kind of oil, but for spiritual purposes it was only olive oil. Anointing oil was always used from the first squeeze of the olives, so it was as pure as possible (virgin). Biblically speaking, you put the oil in the palm of your left hand and with your right hand index finger you dab the oil on the right earlobe, the right thumb, and the right big toe. Then you take the remaining oil in the palm of your hand and place it over their head so the oil drips over their head. The reason we do it on the right side of a person is because we are to walk in spirit and in truth. When we walk we place our right foot forward first representing spirit, and then our left foot representing truth. We walk in spirit and in truth. The left side of a person is considered to be the truth side. That is the side the heart is on. That is why Orthodox Jews wrap tefillin on the left arm, representing truth. They believe they are then bound to the truth. Orthodox Jews consider the left side to be the covenantal side so the tefillin wrapping includes the left hand index finger.

When you put the oil on these four parts of the body you are essentially sealing everything about that persons life. Whatsoever they hear, whatsoever they may do, wheresoever they may go, and whatsoever they think, may it all be for Yah. In other words, may everything of this persons life be under the anointing of the oil.

In the Tenakh anointing oil was used for five reasons:

- 1 Ordination for a life’s service for Yah.
- 2 Setting an object apart for Yah’s permanent service.
- 3 An individuals blessing for joy and gladness.
- 4 A personal fast.
- 5 Healing the sick.

Today, we call what would be similar to anointing oil, perfume.

(Mar 23/16) Jerry Hennig