

Part 2 – Instructions for the Tabernacle

Exodus 25

6 Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense,

This verse covers three elements of the Tabernacle and we'll look at them individually.

First off is oil - this is extremely symbolic in the Word of God. This can truly be another study for another time [**Oil Needed; Be Sure You're Ready** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/286>]. But we'll look at some key points here to try to open up the reason it was so important in the Tabernacle of God (and still is to this very day). Let it first be noted that oil in itself does not bring forth light. You must have fire to get the light but oil is the fuel for the fire. Though this is a physical fact, it also has great symbolism which reveals a great spiritual truth. We'll look further into this in a bit. But first, let's get some background knowledge.

Ex 27:20 tells us that the oil they used was to be **olive** oil - *thou shalt command the children of Israel, that they bring thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always*. Lev 24:2 mirrors this command. What does it mean to 'beat' the olive? The word 'beaten' is #3795 and means: *beaten*, i.e. *pure (oil)*. It comes from #3807, a primitive root that means: *to bruise or violently strike*. In other words, the oil from olives were to be extracted mechanically rather than being heated or chemically refined. This is an important factor in producing olive oil *to this day* and spiritually signifies how we must go through hard times in order to grow spiritually and produce good fruit for our Heavenly Father; being spiritually 'beaten' by the world causes us to learn how to dig our heart and mind deeper into God's Word and find that strong conviction to stand for Him and His Word (Zech 13:9, Lk 8:15, Heb 12:1, 5-11, 1 Pt 1:7, Mth 7:17-27). Further, 'science' has finally caught up with God's Word in realizing the amazing health benefits that come from *pure* olive oil that is extracted through what we term as 'pressing' rather than being heated. First or Cold pressed olive oil (called *Extra virgin – keep that in mind*) refers to the *first* pressing of the crushed (bruised) olives. This is the best of the oil and is what God commanded be used to light His Sanctuary. Though back then they did not have the high tech means to extract olive oil (like we do today), nevertheless, they were still quite capable at extracting olive oil in a pure form. We think our high-tech ways are so superior to our ancestors but the truth is that *there is no new thing under the sun* (Eccl 1:9).

But why does Ex 27:20 and Lev 24:2 tell us that *olive* oil (and only the best of the olive oil) was to be used and not some other kind of oil? Why did God choose olive oil over all other oils? He had good reasons. For one, Extra Virgin olive oil is extremely healthy for us so it's symbolic of the Word of God being spiritually good for our soul. Olive oil is a mono-unsaturated oil and thus lowers the blood total cholesterol, raises the HDL (good cholesterol), lowers the LDL (bad cholesterol), lowers blood pressure, lowers blood sugar, lowers the risk of coronary artery disease, cancer and many other diseases. Extra Virgin olive oil is also loaded with antioxidants, which have powerful biological effects. It contains nutrients that fight inflammation, including oleic acid as well as the antioxidant oleocanthal. Therefore, Extra Virgin olive oil can also help reduce joint pain and swelling from rheumatoid arthritis and the benefits are greatly increased when combined with (clean) fish oil. Extra Virgin olive oil even has antibacterial properties

which are particularly effective against *Helicobacter pylori*, a type of bacterium that can cause stomach ulcers and stomach cancer.

So, while animal fat ‘belongs’ to the Lord (Lev 3:16, 17, 7:23) and we are, therefore, not to eat it. Olive oil is a ‘fat’ approved for eating and specifically designated for anointing. The priests were anointed with olive oil (Ex 28:41, 29:7, 30:30, 40:15), as was the altar (Ex 29:36), the tabernacle, congregation and the altar of God (Ex 30:26). The kings of Israel were also anointed (1 Sam 9:16, 15:1, 16:3, 12, 1 Kings 1:34, 19:15-16). To this day we are commanded to anoint the sick with olive oil for healing (James 5:14-15). Anointing is a *symbolical* way of ‘cleansing’ something or someone. Though the oil used in the anointing does not itself do the healing, it is the act of obedience *in faith* that Jesus *can* heal us (IF He wants to) that brings the healing.

And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Mark 5:34

And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

Luke 7:50

And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

Luke 17:19

And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee.

Luke 18:42

1 And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him.

2 And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?

*3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And **they were offended** [look up this word] **at him**.*

4 But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.

*5 And **he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.***

*6 And he marvelled **because of their unbelief**. And he went round about the villages, teaching.*

Mark 6:1-6

Clearly, it is faith that saves our soul (faith in the *true* Jesus Christ, who is the Word of God) and therefore it’s also faith that heals our body and soul. Why is this? Ex 29:36 says... *thou shalt anoint it, to sanctify it. To sanctify means to clean* (#6942). This then is why the word “Christ” means “*anointed one*” (#5547) and comes from the base word meaning, “*to smear or rub with oil*” (#5548). We can even find a part of God’s sacred name YHVH in the word olive which is “El-ah-Yah.” [learn more about God’s Name – YHVH <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/946>].

Further, James 5:14 says: *Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with **oil** in the name of the Lord.* The word oil in this verse is

#1637 and it means: **olive oil**. In fact, ALL of the accounts translated as ‘oil’ in the New Testament (Greek) are this same word, which means *olive oil*. So, olive oil has long been used as anointing oil for our people as well as for consumption. It’s healing to our body and thus signifies how the Word of God (Jesus Christ, John 1:1, 14) is healing to our soul.

But olive oil was also used for light and for good reason. Not only was it easily available due to olive trees being common in the area, but olive oil burns brightly and at a slow, steady pace (much slower than other oils), making it the optimal choice for light. It is within these astounding facts that we find both the physical purposes God required olive oil to be used in the physical Tabernacle. Yet, it is also within these astounding facts that we also find the *spiritual* significance of the use of olive oil in the Tabernacle. Jesus told us...

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

*15 Neither do men light a **candle**, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.*

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matt 5:14-16

The word ‘candle’ in verse 15 is #3088 and means: *a portable lamp or other illuminator* (literally or figuratively). In essence *we are this candle (lamp)*, and in order for us to bring forth a ‘flame’ we need “oil for the light” (Exodus 25:6, 35:14). What is our oil? In other words, what keeps our spiritual ‘light’ burning? The Word of God is clear on this matter...

*6 There be many that say, Who will shew us any good? LORD, lift thou up **the light of thy countenance** upon us.*

7 Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time that their corn and their wine increased.

Ps 4:6-7

*For thou [YHVH our God] **wilt light my candle**: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.*
Ps 18:28

***The LORD is my light** and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*

Ps 27:1

*O send out **thy light and thy truth**: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.*

Ps 43:3

***Thy word is** a lamp unto my feet, and **a light** unto my path.*

Ps 119:105

*The entrance of **thy words giveth light**; it giveth understanding unto the simple.*
Ps 119:130

*For the commandment is a lamp; and **the law is light**; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:*
Prov 6:23

*1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God.***
2 The same was in the beginning with God.
3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
*4 In him was life; and **the life was the light of men.***
5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not
6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.
8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
*9 **That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.***
10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
*14 And **the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,** (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*
John 1:1-14

*Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*
John 8:12

*For God, who commanded **the light** to shine out of darkness, **hath shined in our hearts**, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*
2 Cor 4:6

The ‘light’ IS the knowledge of the ‘Glory of God’, which is *only* revealed to us *through Jesus Christ*, which is *only* found in the Word of God – the Bible.

*5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all.*
6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
1 John 1:5-7

The Word of God clearly tells us that God (who is Jesus Christ) IS light. Moreover, Jesus Christ IS the Word of God and it is the Word of God that lightens our soul. In John 17:17, Jesus prays to the Father to: *Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth***. So, *it is truth that is our light*. **Truth is the olive oil that lightens our soul**. And, we can only obtain truth through the Word of God. We truly need to study it each day, absorb it into our heart (intentions, emotions, feelings) and our mind (though process). We must absorb God's Word each day and allow it to change us inside so to keep our soul burning bright with truth. And, in order to remain spiritual virgins (not being seduced into deception by the antichrist, who is Satan) we must have enough truth in our soul to make it to the Second Coming of the *true* Jesus Christ...

1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

*3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took **no** oil with them:*

*4 **But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.***

5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

*10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: **and the door was shut**.*

11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

*12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, **I know you not**.*

Matt 25:1-12

The foolish virgins took NO oil with them; this means they did not have *truth* in their heart or mind (Jer 31:33, Heb 8:10, 10:16). Without the truth (oil) we cannot put forth God's righteous Light; we cannot find our way to the Kingdom of Heaven in this dark world. The foolish failed to 'gird their loins with all of the truth in His Word' (Eph 6:14). They failed to obtain enough knowledge and understanding for their lamps. In contrast, 'wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps'. The wise virgins put on spiritual armor (Eph 6) and were prepared for the day of battle, the coming Tribulation of the antichrist [study up on this with: **Antichrist, Satan or Man** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345>]. Matthew 25:5-6 tells us that we do not know exactly when the true Christ will return; so, we are to be *always* prepared for it. We prepare by ensuring we have enough oil in our lamps to bring us through the Tribulation.

34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Luke 21:34-36

Why will Jesus' return be a 'snare' (trap) for all that are on the earth in those days? Because, Satan comes *first* (as the 'antichrist', which merely means 'instead of Christ'). Rev 12, 2 Thess 2 clearly warn us that Satan comes before the true Jesus Christ returns and he will be pretending to be the Messiah (Savior) of the world. His 'power and signs and lying wonders' (2 Thess 2:9) will be a 'snare' (trap) to the world because he'll fool them into worshiping him instead of the true Jesus Christ. This is what the parable of the virgins (and many other Scriptures) warns us about. Jesus too warned us of this in Mth 24, Lk 21 and Mk 13. Satan's lies will trap many minds into believing a lie (that he is the Messiah) and that's why we need knowledge in our mind to know that Satan will return before the true Christ. But we also need to have our priorities strait. If our heart is set on material things (riches of this earth), it will be hard for us to remain loyal to the true Jesus Christ, even if we know that Satan is coming first. Our actions follow what our heart desires; so if your desire is not to obey God (first and foremost) you'll likely allow yourself to be deceived even though you 'knew better'. This is why it takes truth in our 'inward parts' (in the depths of our heart, which is our carnal mind- Rom 8:7) to be loyal and pleasing to God. He has told us this is what He wants above all things in Jer 31:33, Heb 8:10 and 10:16.

This then is why Jesus also warned us that: while we wait for His return (i.e., live our daily lives here on earth in a flesh body) we should not be 'overcharged' with 'surfeiting and drunkenness' or 'cares of this life' - ***because, if we get caught up in those things, the day of Christ's return will sneak up on us.*** We'll be like the foolish virgins who did not have any oil (truth) in their vessels (minds and hearts). Getting caught up in worldly things will cause your oil to leak out of your vessel (mind and heart). Though you might know the truth that Satan comes first, if you get sucked into loving the things of the world, they will steal the truth out of your heart and you'll fall for Satan's lies. We must be very careful about what we allow ourselves to truly desire. Wealth is very corrupting (1 Tim 6:6-10); riches of this world should not be all that important to us. The word 'overcharged' here is #925 and means: *to burden*. What burdens us? Heb 12:1 tells us that **our sins burden us** (weigh us down) and so Paul advises us to '*lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us*'. Getting rid of your sins is twofold. You must seek the truth in God's Word and work to put that in your mind (vessel) and (at the same time) also allow God's Word to convict you so you kick the sin out of your heart and mind (Rom 6). You cannot try to rid yourself of sin without putting God's Word in place of the sin or else you'll be overrun with more sin, even evil spirits (Mth 12:43-45). Getting rid of sin is similar to how God promised the children of Israel they would inherit the promise land...

*And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee **by little and little**: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee.*

Deut 7:22

Little by little, as we seek God and seek to clean our heart (through God's Word), He will help us to kick the sin out *and replace it with His Word*. But we *must* replace our sins (all the lies in our heart and mind) with truth, or else we won't 'gain any ground', spiritually speaking. Moreover, the word *surfeiting* from Lk 21:345 (above) is #2897 and it means: a *headache (as a seizure of pain) from drunkenness, i.e. (by implication) a debauch (by analogy, a glut)*. Being spiritually drunk means: we are so full of lies we cannot reason well; we lose all good sense when we believe in lies. Jesus warned us not to get wrapped up in the world. We are not to burden our heart (thought process) or mind (feelings, emotions, intentions) with spiritual drunkenness (believing and loving lies) or 'cares of this life'. Yet, all too often this is what Christians do. Many consumed by materialism, prestige, lust and pride; and our heart is corrupted, burdened down with sin. Those who do this will **not** be accepted by the *true* Jesus Christ...

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?
*23 And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.***
 Matt 7:21-23

The reason Jesus won't accept them is because they 'work iniquity' and this is what happens when you have NO oil in your vessel (truth in your mind *and heart*). When you don't study God's Word you don't understand the basic, fundamental truths that keep you from apostatizing. The current form of 'Christianity' so prevalent today promotes idols and false gods by pushing materialism, lies such as the Rapture Theory and promotes those who call themselves "Jews" but are not (Rev 2:9, 3:9). And in place of the Highest Feast Day of God (Passover) they teach people to observe a heathen holiday called Easter [learn more in **The Truth About Easter** <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/975>]. None of this makes God happy; the false prophets (which are many of the Pastors of today) literally teach His people to spiritually whore after idols (materialism) and false gods (like 'self'). Telling people, you don't have to study God's Word and then teaching them lies such as Easter, the Rapture Theory and Zionism... all lead people to the false Christ – Satan himself [**Do Not Be Deceived** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/235>].

So, the fact that it takes 'virgin' olive oil to light the lamps in the physical Tabernacle of God reveals that it takes spiritual virgins (who have *truth in their heart and mind* [who's soul has not been penetrated by Satan's lies]) to fuel the spiritual Tabernacle of God. And how do you get that pure 'virgin' olive oil? You press the hell out of them. Like precious metals need heat to clean the 'dross' off, olives must be pressed to get the precious oil out of them. Likewise, we too need to be spiritually pressed – we *need* spiritual pressure from society to motivate us to dig our heart and mind deep into God's Word and stand for it. We *have* to be tested and tried in order to 'press' us hard enough to get the 'dross' out of our soul and allow the pure olive oil (truth) to flow – it's only from the trials, tribulations and chastisement from God that we then can bring

forth the *peaceable fruit of righteousness* (Heb 12:11). Remember this the next time the world (society) pressures you to conform to their ways.

*And **be not conformed to this world**: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Rom 12:2

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

*29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Rom 8:28-31

Because the oil (the truth which is found *only* in God's Word) is what keeps us from worshipping the false Christ (and from losing our spiritual virginity), the parable of the virgins (Mth 25) also explains why Ex 27:20 and Lev 24:2 tell us the lamp in God's Tabernacle was to ***always*** be burning. If we don't keep our spiritual light burning *always* (i.e., the truth in us *always*) then we won't be ready for the return of the true Christ and we will, therefore, be fooled into worshipping the false Christ (Satan) when he is kicked out of heaven to this earth and pretends to be God (2 Thess 2, Rev 2, Dan 7-12). We *can't* allow 'good times', cares of the world, earthly riches, pride, lust, emotions *or anything else* to distract us from learning God's Word and *obeying* it with all our heart, soul, mind and strength (mk 12:30). Learn more in the following studies...

The Tribulation of the End Times is for Your Soul, not Your Flesh Body

<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/403>

Are you Mentally and Spiritually Prepared?

<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/404>].

Therefore, it should be no mystery (or surprise) that God (Jesus Christ) is symbolic of pure olive oil. He is the oil that sustains our lamps. We must work to obtain the oil, work to obtain the wisdom of His Word. We can accomplish that by diligently seeking out the scriptures and knocking on His door asking for understanding of them in order to perform His work. Then He will pour the oil upon us, His Holy Spirit whereby we are given the wisdom of His Word as He gave it to Solomon (1 Kings 3:3-15). This will ensure we have a full vessel of oil which allows our flame of truth to burn continually, to be a witness of the Lord before the entire world. That flame must remain constant as God told Moses, "Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually," (Leviticus 24:2). Continually, without end. ***Our relationship with God should be constant*** if we expect to keep our vessels full of oil, full of courage, strength, and the Holy Spirit.

Exodus 25

*6 Oil for the light, **spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense,***

Next, we see that God asked the children of Israel for ‘spices’ for the anointing oil. We’ve already learned that the anointing oil was pure, virgin, olive oil but what are these spices and why were they needed? The word ‘spices’ here is #1314 and it means: *fragrance*; by implication, *spicery*; also the *balsam plant*. It comes from #1313 which means: *to be fragrant*; [compare OT:5561] *the balsam plant*. The balsam tree was another tree common to the area. But we do not need to guess what God is speaking about here because we get more details on this ‘anointing oil’ later on in Exodus...

22 Moreover the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

*23 Take thou also unto thee principal spices, of pure **myrrh** five hundred shekels, and of **sweet cinnamon** half so much, even two hundred and fifty shekels, and of sweet calamus two hundred and fifty shekels,*

*24 And of **cassia** five hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, and of **oil olive** an hin:*

*25 And thou shalt make it an oil of holy ointment, an ointment compound after the art of the apothecary: **it shall be an holy anointing oil.***

26 And thou shalt anoint the tabernacle of the congregation therewith, and the ark of the testimony,

27 And the table and all his vessels, and the candlestick and his vessels, and the altar of incense,

28 And the altar of burnt offering with all his vessels, and the laver and his foot.

*29 And **thou shalt sanctify them, that they may be most holy: whatsoever toucheth them shall be holy.***

30 And thou shalt anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office.

*31 And thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel, saying, **This shall be an holy anointing oil unto me throughout your generations.***

32 Upon man's flesh shall it not be poured, neither shall ye make any other like it, after the composition of it: it is holy, and it shall be holy unto you.

33 Whosoever compoundeth any like it, or whosoever putteth any of it upon a stranger, shall even be cut off from his people.

*34 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take unto thee **sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum**; these sweet spices **with pure frankincense**: of each shall there be a like weight:*

*35 And **thou shalt make it a perfume, a confection after the art of the apothecary, tempered together, pure and holy:***

36 And thou shalt beat some of it very small, and put of it before the testimony in the tabernacle of the congregation, where I will meet with thee: it shall be unto you most holy.

*37 And **as for the perfume which thou shalt make, ye shall not make to yourselves according to the composition thereof: it shall be unto thee holy for the LORD.***

38 Whosoever shall make like unto that, to smell thereto, shall even be cut off from his people.

Ex 30:22-38

God ordained certain combinations of spices (herbs) for the olive oil and then also for a perfume to be a ‘sweet incense’ to Him when they burned incense (we’ll learn more about this later in Exodus 30:1-9 and 40:5,27). What this amounts to is that, God had exclusive rights to these ‘recipes’. Today we would simply say He had a ‘patent’ on these spice combinations and no one else in the country was allowed to use this combination of ‘spices’. To do so would mean losing their citizenship to the Kingdom of God (i.e., being ‘cut off’ from his people). These spices had benefits medicinally and had wonderful fragrance. And, since animals were going to be sacrificed in the area, they needed some way to clean things. After all, they didn’t have bleach or any other modern disinfectant in those days. What did they use instead? They used plants – herbs and spices- to clean with in those days (Ps 104:14, Gen 1:11, 30) along with lye soap (Jer 2:22, Mal 3:2). This anointing oil and spice (herb) mix was extremely cleansing, which is why He said: *thou shalt sanctify them, that they may be most holy: whatsoever toucheth them shall be holy*. Whatever the anointing oil would touch it would clean because, not only is olive oil itself an antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral, but so were the spices He instructed be used. What’s more, they also smelled really good which would be very much welcomed over the smell of blood from dead animals.

So, God not only instructed this anointing oil be used for cleansing (sanctification) but then, He commanded that incense be *burnt*. Why? Burning incense literally cleans *everything*, even the air. As we now know, viruses transfer *through the air*. So, if you clean the air then you remove all the viruses floating around. This is why frankincense was burnt. If you research the cleansing properties of frankincense, you’ll learn how powerful it is at cleansing the air. In addition to cleansing the air, burning incense also removed the bad bacteria and fungus’ that were on surfaces. Further, spices and herbs are better than modern day cleaners because *they only kill only the bad* bacteria, funguses and viruses but *leave the good ones*. As we now know, the world (including our body) is made of, not only bad but *good* bacteria, funguses and virus’. We need the good ones to be healthy. We think we’re so smart in our ‘modern day’ but the sad fact is our health and hygiene ‘knowledge’ is so screwed up. We use ‘cleaning tools’ (sanitizers and disinfectants) that kill off the *good* (beneficial) bacteria, funguses and viruses and therefore we leave ourselves susceptible to things like ‘super bugs’ and such. Our immunity is greatly reduced when we kill off the *good* (beneficial) bacteria, funguses and viruses. In all our modern day ‘cleanliness’ we are dirtier than ever – inside and out.

So, basically, when God speaks of sanctifying the Tabernacle (Temple), the furniture in the Tabernacle (or Temple), the priests and/or the congregation – He is talking about cleaning them. And He uses the physical cleansing to explain the way we are to clean ourselves *spiritually*. He wanted His earthly Tabernacles to be healthy and clean - likewise, He wants His spiritual Tabernacle (our soul) to be healthy and clean. So, naturally, the spices He commanded be used in His anointing oil and perfumed incense have spiritual meanings to them as well. This is why, two out of the three gifts given to Jesus Christ (God in the flesh) after He was born, were spices used in the Tabernacle...

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Matt 2:11

Jesus was also buried with these spices (John 19:39). So, from His birth to His death He was surrounded by spices used in the Tabernacle of God... which is quite befitting because Jesus Christ is the carnal Tabernacle for God Himself (John 1:1,14). For, *in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily* (Col 2:9). We see then that spices like myrrh, sweet cinnamon, cassia, frankincense (and more) are not only good smelling but very cleansing as well. They therefore have a spiritual meaning. We'll quickly cover a few of them here but you should really take the time to research all of the spices further.

Myrrh - This was the 'gum' from a dwarf tree of the terebinth family, growing in Arabia. The 'gum' seeps out from the trunk sometimes spontaneously but incisions are also made by man to get the 'gum' to seep out when more is desired. We do the same today to get the sap from Maple trees that makes extremely good syrup. However, only the best could be used for the Tabernacle. Therefore, the 'gum' had to be pure (free from contaminants) which usually comes from that which flowed spontaneously. This 'gum' smells very good but is very bitter to the taste. It was used as a perfume, as a medicine for deadening pain (Mark 15:23), also for correcting secretions, and as a modifier of other medicines. Myrrh is spoken of several places in the Scriptures. Psalms 45:8 says: *All Thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes and cassia*". Jesus Christ is described as coming out of the wilderness: *like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense* (Song of Solomon 3:6). Myrrh is also mentioned in connection with the bride of Christ (Song of Solomon 4:6, 14). Further, the bride mentions His lips as "*dropping sweet-smelling myrrh*" (Song of Solomon 5:13). And, as noted earlier: myrrh was one of the gifts brought by the wise men (Matt 2:11) and brought (mixed with aloes) to embalm the body of Jesus Christ as He was laid in the grave (John 19:39). Considering these things, we can make a few conclusions about the spiritual significance of Myrrh. Since Myrrh flowed spontaneously from the tree (as well as through incisions), it points to how willingly Jesus offered all that He was to God. Further, as the tree often had to be pierced for the 'gum' to flow, likewise was our Savior pierced. It was only because of this that the Holy Spirit of God was given to us (John 7:39, 14). On the other hand - the bitter taste of the myrrh helps us see the reality of the *sufferings* through which He went. As Ps 51:17 reminds us: *the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit*. This then is why Jesus, *being in an agony, prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground* (Luke 22:44). So, the sweet smell of Myrrh and the bitter taste both remind us of the great price Jesus paid for us on the Cross.

Sweet Cinnamon – This spice still a well-known and beloved spice today. It comes from the inner bark of Cinnamon (*Cinnamomum verum*), is a bushy **evergreen tree** of the laurel family (Lauraceae) and the spice derived inner bark and has a delicately fragrant aroma and a warm sweet flavor, which is why it's commonly used for flavoring. A valuable essential oil is also extracted from the bark wherein these properties are put into an intensified form. As a medicine, it is a

stimulant and cordial. Cinnamon is not widely spoken of in the Bible. It is used a 'spice' that the apostate religion of Satan (described in the Bible as a 'whore') uses to seduce mankind (Prov 7:17, Rev 18:13) but also a spice that Christ uses to woo His virgin Bride (Son of Solomon 4:14). Doubtless, it's a valuable spice that can be used for multiple purposes. But what is the spiritual significance of it? The fact that it comes from the bark of a evergreen tree tells us a lot, for in Hos 14:8 our Heavenly Father tells us that He is like an 'green fir tree' and that from Him we find our fruit. That is to say, we find the spiritual food we need to sustain our soul in Jesus Christ. Indeed, the Word of God (Jesus Christ) is *life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh* (Prov 4:22). Jesus also told us that: *it is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life* (John 6:63).

3. **Sweet Calamus** - In the Hebrew, this means *a reed* (as erect); by resemblance *a rod* (especially for measuring), *shaft, tube, stem, the radius* (of the arm), or a *beam* (of a steelyard) (#7070). This is likely a cane, or reed. A "sweet cane" is said to be found in Lebanon, also in India and Arabia. It usually grows in miry soil, from which it sends up the shoots from which its name is derived. The fragrance was obtained by *crushing* the plant. This word is translated as 'calamus' only three times in the Scriptures. Once, of course in Ex 30:23 but it's also used (along with cinnamon) in Song of Solomon 4:14 as a spice that Christ uses to woo His virgin Bride. The third place is in Ezekiel 27:19 where it is referring to the valuables traded in the days of Tyre, which is symbolic of Satan's unjust (evil) system of trade (that is still alive and powerful today). It is this system that Jesus Christ will totally destroy when He returns (2 Thess 2:8, 2 Pt 3:10-13, Rev 18). However, the same word is also used elsewhere. It was translated as a "stalk" of grain in Gen. 41:5, as "branches" of the golden candlestick (Ex. 25:31-32.35-36), as a "reed" shaken in the water (1 Kings 14:15) and used for measuring (Ezek. 40:3), and a staff of a broken reed (Isa. 36:6). Its place of growth, the mire, is alluded to (Isa.19:6). Its fragility is used to illustrate the grace of Him who will not break a bruised reed (Isa. 42:3). So, the word is actually quite common but not in application to being a sweet spice used. However, we can easily see the spiritual significance of this spice in the nature of the reed: it is upright, just as our Heavenly Father is and also as our dear Savior, Jesus Christ is. He is also the balance and the measuring reed to weigh and measure men, wherein we're all found wanting yet He is gracious, merciful and patient to help us change from our sins and learn how to be upright, like Him. Like the reed was grown in the mire, so too we are sown in the mire because the world has been set in our heart from conception (Ecc 3:11). Nevertheless, as we grow, we can learn how to rise above the mire (just as the reeds) and learn how to be upright, like Jesus Christ. For wherever Jesus Christ finds a "bruised reed" (broken and contrite heart -Ps 51:17) He lifts us up out of the mire and establish our heart upright.

8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

Ps 25:8-9

The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.

Prov 16:17

The way of the LORD is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.

Prov 10:29

4. **Frankincense** – Frankincense oil is extracted from the gum or resin of frankincense or olibanum trees, whose scientific name is *Boswellia carteri*. The health benefits of frankincense essential oil can be attributed to its properties as an antiseptic, disinfectant, astringent, carminative, cicatrizant, cytophylactic, digestive, diuretic, emmenagogue, expectorant, sedative, tonic, uterine, and a vulnerary substance. Apart from being used as a cosmetic and a fragrance, frankincense oil has numerous medicinal uses. It has many amazing health benefits such as reducing stress, boosting immunity, fighting cancer, improving skin health, and promoting memory. Frankincense oil is effective as an antiseptic, and ***even the fumes or smoke obtained from burning it has antiseptic and disinfectant qualities that eliminate the germs as the smoke filters them out.*** It can be applied on wounds to protect them from tetanus and becoming septic, without any side effects. It is equally good for internal wounds and protects them from developing infections. Frankincense oil *is very effective as a sedative* because ***it induces a feeling of mental peace and relaxation.*** Simply apply a diluted solution of this oil on wounds, or use it after blending with a skin cream, and your wounds will heal faster and will also be protected from infections. This oil is equally beneficial in healing internal wound, cuts, and ulcers. Frankincense oil has been traditionally used to improve memory. Frankincense oil relieves pain associated with rheumatism and arthritis. It helps to heal boils, infected wounds, acne, circulatory problems, insomnia, and various types of inflammation as well. There are no known adverse side effects.

This spice (herb) is amazing and its positive benefits are numerous; why does our society not use it more in the medical community? (Think about it). Anyhow, it's no wonder our Heavenly Father required it be used in the Tabernacle. This too was one of the gifts given to Jesus at birth (Mth 2:11) and, again, it is a 'spice' that the apostate religion of Satan (described in the Bible as a 'whore') uses to seduce mankind (Prov 7:17, Rev 18:13) and also a spice that Christ uses to woe His virgin Bride (Son of Solomon 4:14). But what is the spiritual significance of frankincense? We find it in the fact that *even the fumes or smoke of frankincense has disinfectant qualities that eliminate germs* - the smoke literally filters them out. And God commanded that this incense (with others) be burned. We can easily see why this was physically commanded: because it cleansed the Tabernacle (and Temple). And it is therein we find our spiritual meaning. As the smoke from frankincense cleansed, even the air, of the Tabernacle, so too does the Holy Spirit cleanse our heart and mind.

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.
John 4:23-24

Our Heavenly Father has a spirit, just as we do. Only His Spirit is Holy and therefore, it is cleansing, just as frankincense. His Holy Spirit can clean every inch of our heart and mind IF we allow Him in. How do we allow the Holy Spirit into us? John 6:63 tells us that: *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.* Therefore, IF we want God's cleansing Holy Spirit within us, we must study His Word for ourselves (2 Tim 2:15) and learn how to 'rightly divide' it to keep the subject and

object in proper context so we don't pervert His Word. Heb 4:12 further explains when it says that: *the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* God's Holy Spirit helps us to spiritually dissect His Word and that is what cleans our spirit (heart and mind). Like the smoke from frankensicne permeates into every inch of the room (even the air), likewise does the Holy Spirit (the Word of God, Eph 6:17) permeate into ever inch of our heart and mind... when we are not obedient. Isa 1:19-20 says, *If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.* Spiritually this means if we are not rebellious hearted, but willing and obedient, the Holy Spirit will permeate into every inch of our heart and mind and feed us spiritual truth and clean us from our sins. Did not Jesus say: *ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you* (John 15:3)? And, in His prayer to our Heavenly Father (in John 17:17), He asked God to: ***Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*** 2 Thess 2:13 further states that... *God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation **through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.*** It takes believing in the truth (God's Word) and allowing His Holy Spirit (His Words) to seep into your heart and mind and clean you. 1 Pt 1:2 also speaks of the cleansing power of the Holy Spirit of God, which is the Word of God (Eph 6:17, John 6:63, Rev 19:13, John 1:1, 14). Never forget that *the kingdom of God is not in word, but **in power!*** (1 Cor 4:20)

So, we see that the spices (herbs) point us to the uprightness, righteousness and Holiness of the Messiah, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who is the One that cleanses us spiritually. He truly is the only one that can make our soul 'sweet smelling' to our Heavenly Father (Rom 8:26-27) and the first step to that was done when He died for the sins of mankind at Calvary. Then, He overcame death (Satan, Heb 2:14) and sent His Holy Spirit into the hearts of those who accepted Him (Acts 2:33). He is still sending His Holy Spirit into the hearts of those who accept Him and it is the process of spiritual purification that His Word and Holy Spirit help us with, that makes us a 'sweet smell' to our Heavenly Father. Sincerely trying to get rid of our sins and do what's right with all we have inside is what pleases YHVH the most (Mk 12:30).

So, when you add the sweet spices to the olive oil you get a powerful (and good smelling) anointing oil that cleanses and purifies beyond anything man has ever come up with. Likewise, when you add the Word of God and the Holy Spirit to your mind (though process) and heart (emotions, feelings, intentions) then you become (in time) purified beyond any means that man can imagine...

- 1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.
- 2 For I bear them record that **they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.**
- 3 For **they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.**
- 4 For Christ is the end of the law [of ordinances, Mth 5] for righteousness to every one that believeth.
- 5 For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them.

6 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:)

7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)

8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and **in thy heart**: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; [God's Word must be in your heart to be effective in cleansing your soul]

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and **shalt believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, **thou shalt be saved**.

10 For **with the heart man believeth unto righteousness**; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Rom 10:1-11

Let us continue to strive (with perseverance each day) to keep our hearts anointed with that pure olive oil and sweet bleed of spices (the Word of God and the Holy Spirit) so that we too can be an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God (Phil 4:18).

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Col 1:9-14

AMEN.