

Advent Season at SIF

The Gift



Recap from The Gift series:

Frankincense: the High Priestly role of Christ

- *Dealt with our sin completely by the shedding of His blood and has restored our priesthood (Hebrews 5: 1-3, 7-9)*

Response:

- *Practical worship*
- *Live in obedience*
- *Be a living sacrifice*
- *Share our faith*



Recap from The Gift series:

Gold: the Kingship of Christ

- *A King like no other- fulfilled scripture by riding on a donkey, cleansing the temple, healing the sick, response to children*

Response:

- *Oppose Him like Herod? Dismiss Him like the Jewish Priests?*
Put Him at back like the Inn Keeper?
- *Or fall down and worship Him like the Magi*
- *Develop friendship with God*



*For unto us a child is born, **unto us a son is given**: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah

9:6

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

*When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they **fell down** and **worshiped** him. Then, **opening their treasures**, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and **myrrh**.*

Matthew 2:1-2, 10-11





Frankincense: the dried sap of Boswellia tree



***Myrrh**: the lifeblood of Commiphora tree*

Frankincense & myrrh are both tree resins/balms/gums, or gummy sap that oozes from the bark of two different trees native to the Arabian Peninsula and Northeast Africa.

Incisions, cuts or openings are made in the bark of the tree during important times of year, and the sap pours out.

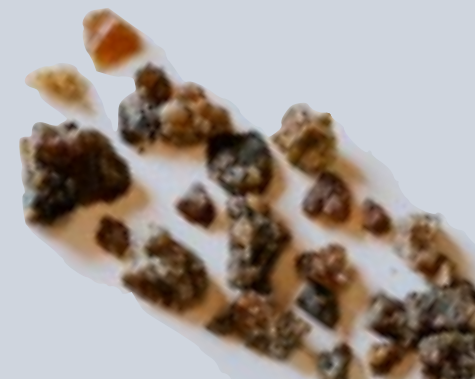
Myrrh - Suffering and death of Christ (suffering servant)

...Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11

Purposes of Myrrh in biblical times:

- *Perfume (Psalm 45:8; Prov. 7:7; Song of Sol. 1:13; 3:6; 4:6, 14; 5:1, 5, 13)*
- *Anointing oil/ incense (Exodus 30:23-25)*
- *Cosmetics (Esther 2:12)*
- *Antiseptic, anaesthetic/painkilling (Mark 15: 23)*
- *Embalming for burial (John 19:39)*



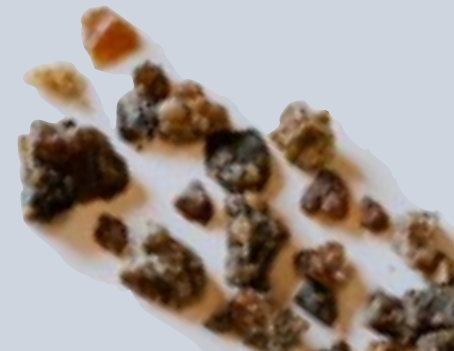
Myrrh - Suffering and death of Christ (suffering servant)

Anaesthetic/painkilling

- *Then they brought him to the place called Golgotha, which is translated, the place of Skull. Then they gave him wine mingled with **myrrh** to drink but He did not take it.*

Mark 15:22-

23

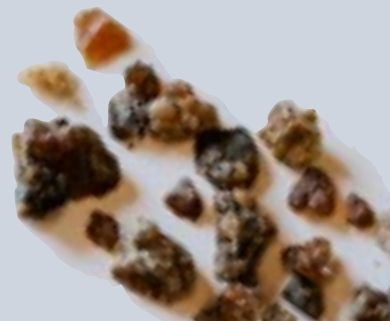


Myrrh - Suffering and death of Christ (suffering servant)

Embalming for burial

- *And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came bringing a mixture of **myrrh** and aloes, about a hundred pounds. Then they took the body of Jesus and bound it in strips of linen with the **spices**, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.*

John 19:39-



The Suffering Servant



*Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was **wounded** for **our transgressions**, He was **bruised** for **our iniquities**; The **chastisement** for **our peace** was upon Him, And by His **stripes** we are **healed**. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the **iniquity of us all**. He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall **bear their iniquities**.*

Isaiah 53:1-6, 11

Our Sacrificial Lamb



*God presented Christ as a **sacrifice of atonement**, through the shedding of his blood—to be **received by faith**. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished.*

Romans 3:25

But God demonstrates His own love towards us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Gift of Righteousness



*For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the **righteousness of God in Him**.* *2 Cor 5:21*

*And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgement which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the **free gift** which came from many offences resulted in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who **receive abundance of grace** and the **gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be **made righteous**.*

Romans 5:16-17, 19

The Invitation

1. Invitation to deeper relationship with Him



1. Invitation to deeper relationship with Him

*God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be **received** by faith... Romans 3:25*

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new...Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be **reconciled** to God.
2 Cor 5:17, 20*

Have you received Him? Are you walking in relationship with Him?

The Invitation

- 1. Invitation to deeper relationship with Him*
- 2. Invitation to worship*



2. Invitation to worship

*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*

*The twenty-four elders **fall down** before Him who sits on the throne and **worship Him** who lives forever and ever, and **cast their crowns** before the throne, saying: “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.” Rev. 5:10-11*

The Invitation

- 1. Invitation to deeper relationship with Him*
- 2. Invitation to worship*
- 3. Invitation to fix our eyes on him*



3. Invitation to fix our eyes on him

For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize and understand our weaknesses and temptations, but One who has been tempted [knowing exactly how it feels to be human] in every respect as we are, yet without [committing any] sin. Therefore let us [with privilege] approach the throne of grace [that is, the throne of God's gracious favor] with confidence and without fear, so that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find [His amazing] grace to help in time of need [an appropriate blessing, coming just at the right moment].

Hebrew 4:15-16 (Amp)

Casting all your care upon Him for He cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7



Frankincense: the dried sap of Boswellia tree



Myrrh: the lifeblood of Commiphora tree

*Incisions or **cuts** are made in the bark of the tree and the sap pours out-”you must **injure** the tree without killing it”. Frankincense and Myrrh have proven medicinal properties(antiseptic and anti-inflammatory properties, cure for many ailments).*

*“But he was **pierced** for our transgressions; he was **crushed** for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his **wounds** we are **healed**”- Isaiah 53:5(ESV)*

Coincidence?

Gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh

*He is our King, High Priest and Sacrificial lamb/Suffering Servant.
In Him is our righteousness, forgiveness and redemption.*

Have you accepted The Invitation to:

- 1) Enter into true relationship with Him?*
- 2) Offer the worship due to Him?*
- 3) Fix your eyes on Him?*



The Gift

Gold ⁷⁹_{Au}
Precious Metal
Symbol of Kingship
on earth
196.967



Frankincense
Resin from tree
Highly fragrant
Symbol of healing



Myrrh
Resin from tree
Spice for embalming
Symbol of suffering