

Exodus 30:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

The sacred anointing oil—myrrh, cinnamon, calamus, cassia in olive oil—represents the Holy Spirit's multifaceted work. Each spice contributes unique fragrance, together creating complete anointing. The oil's holiness (never for common use) emphasizes that the Spirit is sacred, not to be counterfeited or treated casually. Christ was anointed with this spiritual reality, receiving the Spirit without measure (John 3:34). Believers receive the same Spirit, though in measure.

Historical Context

The specific spice formula was divinely prescribed and forbidden for common use—counterfeit anointing oil incurred severe penalty. This protected the sacred symbolism and prevented profaning what represented God's Spirit.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does each spice's unique contribution illustrate the Holy Spirit's multifaceted work?

2. What does the oil's sacred exclusivity teach about treating the Holy Spirit with reverence?

Interlinear Text

וְקִדַּשְׁתָּ:	אֶת־	וְהָיָה	קֹדֶשׁ יְיָ	קֹדֶשׁ יְיָ	כָּל־
And thou shalt sanctify	H853	H1961	holy	holy	H3605
H6942			H6944	H6944	
וְהַנִּגַּע	בָּהּ	וְקִדַּשְׁתָּ:			
whatsoever toucheth	H0	And thou shalt sanctify			
H5060		H6942			

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 29:37 (Holy): Seven days thou shalt make an atonement for the altar, and sanctify it; and it shall be an altar most holy: whatsoever toucheth the altar shall be holy.

Matthew 23:19 (Parallel theme): Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?

Leviticus 6:18 (Holy): All the males among the children of Aaron shall eat of it. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations concerning the offerings of the LORD made by fire: every one that toucheth them shall be holy.

Matthew 23:17 (Parallel theme): Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold?