

Exodus 30:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

שָׁמָן לְאַמְרָה תֹּדֵבֶר יְשַׁבָּא לְבָנֵי אַיִל
unto the children of Israel And thou shalt speak saying oil
H413 H1121 H3478 H1696 H559 H8081

מְשִׁיחַת קְדֻשָּׁה יְהִי הָלֵךְ אֲנַוְתִּי
This shall be an holy anointing H6944 H1961 H2088 H0

לְדָרְתֵיכֶם:
unto me throughout your generations
H1755

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