

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

וְאֵל	בְּנֵי י	יִשְׂרָאֵל	תִּדְבֹּר	לֵאמֹר	שֶׁן
H413	unto the children	of Israel	And thou shalt speak	saying	oil
	H1121	H3478	H1696	H559	H8081
מְשֻׁחָת	קֹדֶשׁ	לִי יְהוָה	זֶה הַ	לִי יְהוָה	
anointing	This shall be an holy	H1961	H2088	H0	
H4888	H6944				
לְדֹרֹתֵיכֶם:					
unto me throughout your generations					
H1755					