

Psalm 133:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;

Analysis

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard. References Aaron's anointing (Exodus 29:7). Oil so copious it flowed down beard to robe. Anointing oil symbolized Holy Spirit, consecration. Unity is similarly precious—not manufactured but poured from above.

Historical Context

Aaron's anointing (Exodus 29) was pivotal. Special oil (Exodus 30:23-33) was sacred, never reproduced. Its abundance signified blessing. Christians applied anointing to Christ (Messiah = Anointed) and Spirit's outpouring.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does abundant oil flowing down picture Spirit's work in unified communities?

2. What makes Christian unity precious like sacred oil?
3. How does this challenge individualistic Christianity neglecting corporate unity?

Interlinear Text

מַן	כַּפְשָׁה	בְּזַבְדָּה	עַל	בְּרַאשׁ	שַׁיְלָה	עַל	בְּרַאשׁ	עַל
ointment	It is like the precious		H5921	upon the head	that ran down	H5921	beard	
H8081	H2896			H7218	H3381	H2206		
בְּרַאשׁ	שַׁיְלָה	עַל	בְּרַאשׁ	שַׁיְלָה	מִדְוָתָיו			
beard	even Aaron's	that ran down	H5921	to the skirts	of his garments			
H2206	H175	H3381		H6310	H4060			

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 8:12 (Parallel theme): And he poured of the anointing oil upon Aaron's head, and anointed him, to sanctify him.

Exodus 29:7 (Parallel theme): Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him.

Proverbs 27:9 (Parallel theme): Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.

Exodus 39:24 (Parallel theme): And they made upon the hems of the robe pomegranates of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and twined linen.

John 12:3 (Parallel theme): Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

Song of Solomon 1:3: Because of the savour of thy good ointments thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee.

Psalms 141:5 (Parallel theme): Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not break my head: for yet my prayer also shall be in their calamities.

Exodus 28:33 (Parallel theme): And beneath upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about:

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