

Psalm 45:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

Analysis

The remarkable declaration: 'All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.' The precious fragrances and luxurious palace setting celebrate royal splendor. Hebrews 1:8-9 quotes the preceding verses as applying to Christ, making this description ultimately christological.

Historical Context

Myrrh, aloes, and cassia were expensive fragrances used for anointing and luxury. Ivory palaces represented extreme wealth. This royal wedding celebration points beyond itself to the ultimate King's glory.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the sensory richness of this verse contribute to understanding Christ's glory?
2. What does it mean that the king is 'made glad' in his palace?

Interlinear Text

מֵר	קְרֵצְיוֹת	לְאַבְלָל	וְתָ	כָּל	בְּגָדָת	יְבָשָׁה	מִן	בְּיַכְלֵי	מִן
smell of myrrh	and aloes	and cassia		H3605	All thy garments	H899	H4480	palaces	
H4753	H174	H7102							H1964
וְשָׁמְחוּבָה:	מִבְּ	מִבְּ	וְ						
out of the ivory	whereby	they have made thee glad							
H8127	H4482	H8055							

Additional Cross-References

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.

John 19:39 (Parallel theme): And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight.

Song of Solomon 4:6: Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense.