

Last time, we began our study in the Song of Solomon in John 12, when Mary, anointed the feet of the Lord Jesus with her spikenard ointment.

John's gospel records for us that the fragrance of Mary's ointment filled the house so that ALL who were there could smell its sweet fragrance.

Mary loved the Lord Jesus, (Luke 10) tells us that Mary sat at His feet while He was teaching, fixated upon His Word!

If you love for Christ (like Mary did), you will long to be in His presence, AND THEN it will be the aroma of your love to Christ that will diffuse and fill ANY place where you are... just like the aroma of Mary's ointment, which filled the whole house where Jesus was.

Song 1:12: The bride's spikenard diffused its sweet fragrance because she loved the King presence.

How do I come to experience a sincere love for Christ like this?

You won't know it by outward compliance to commandments, or from participating in external religious ordinances; your love to Christ must from the life of God and from the Spirit of God within you!

If the Spirit of God is IN YOU, it stands to reason that the love of God will be shed abroad in your hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto you!

Love to Christ should therefore (FOR YOU) BE SPIRITUALLY NATURAL since you are a new creature in Christ SINCE you are a partaker of the divine nature!

In Christ, beloved, you ought always to be sitting at the King's table! Your love to Christ ought always to be diffusing the beautiful fragrance of the love of Christ from within you, in your conversation and in how you carry yourself in this world toward both the saved and toward the perishing!

Every place that we go, beloved, and with every human with whom we speak and company, we should be diffusing the sweet fragrance the love of Christ! BOTH to the saved and to the perishing!

(V13): The bride expresses her love to the bridegroom by describing what He is to her: "A bundle of myrrh IS my well beloved unto me". Psalm 45:8

What is myrrh? Where does it come from? What is it used for?

The gum or sap of myrrh comes from the myrrh tree, which is indigenous to Israel, the middle east, and North Africa.

Camphire or henna grows in the same regions. A bundle of myrrh and a cluster of camphire or henna is my beloved!

The myrrh tree is not very large, but it is a low, thorny, and ragged tree, oftentimes with a flat top. In spring, it is full of green flowers.

Interestingly enough, the gum of myrrh or its sap is harvested or extracted from the tree by wounding the bark of the tree, at which time "the tree bleeds out gum of myrrh, or the sap". In fact, the gum is said to at times, spontaneously and "freely flow" from the tree.

You cannot help but think of the Son of Man, wounded, suffering, and bleeding as an atonement for our sins!

Myrrh is beautifully fragrant; it was one of the principal ingredients in the holy anointing oil for the priests: *Exodus 30:22-33*

Myrrh was valuable for its many uses: Jacob sent myrrh with his sons to Egypt as a gift for "the prince" who had spoken roughly to his sons, and who demanded that Benjamin be sent with them. *Genesis 43:11*

Myrrh was used by the keeper of the women for Esther for 6 months to prepare her to be brought into the King. *Esther 2:12*

Myrrh was one of the (3) gifts presented by the magi who had come from the east searching for the young King. *Matthew 2:11*

Myrrh was medicinal: Give strong drink to him that is ready to perish saith Solomon in the proverbs. In Mark 15:23, they mixed with wine with myrrh to give to the Lord while he was on the cross, this is thought to have been His mother to alleviate His pain and the suffering. But He WOULD NOT drink of this cup; He must endure the cross, He must fully and consciously drink the cup of the wrath of His Father for the sins of the world. *Mark 15:23*

And then, Myrrh was used to embalm and anoint the dead: *John 19:39*

The bride says, my well beloved is UNTO ME a BUNDLE of myrrh!

She goes on to say, He shall lie all night between my breasts! It was as if she was saying, (not a little bit of myrrh), but MY well beloved IS UNTO ME like a bundle and bag FULL OF MYRRH hanging about my neck.

This (I believe) is what we should SEE by faith in the imagery of the bride's words! *When she said: "He shall lie all night betwixt my breasts"*

It is as if she confessed MY WELL BELOVED IS MY HEART!

He is ALWAYS here with me saith the bride; I SMELL the sweet aroma of His love to me!

THIS is what Christ IS TO ME saith the bride, the church! Lying all night between my breasts was as if she said, I MUST have Him, therefore, I WILL HOLD Him and do nothing to provoke Him to depart from me!

His presence with me, saith the bride cleanses me and heals my soul; He is the constant and sweet savor of my life!

Ephesians 3:17: "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith"

"My well beloved is TO ME A BUNDLE OF MYRRH, and in (V14), and, HE IS AS A CLUSTER OF CAMPHIRE in the vineyards of Engedi"

Note both in (V13-14), the bride INSISTS that the bridegroom IS HER well beloved. I am His, and HE IS MIN

Camphire or Henna are odiferous or fragrant flowers; these flowers grow in bunches or clusters. But the Hebrew word here for Camphire is Kopher, or as it means, covering, ransom, satisfaction, sum of money or redemption price.

Cluster means a bunch, like a bunch of grapes. In fact, the Hebrew word for CLUSTER is Eshkol...grapes of Eshcol.

The camphire or henna flowers were pulverized and used to dye garments and even beards and hair. Everything that it touched, it dyed!

The love and graces of Christ ought to touch every part of our lives!