

## Elder Bobby Willis



### Exodus 30:34-38

#### Sweet Scents Unto The Lord

We all love to smell the fragrance of a rose or other beautiful flowers with their own pleasing scents. Exodus 30:34-38 is a passage of scripture where the Lord told Moses to take sweet spices with pure frankincense and make it into a perfume to be put in the tabernacle. This sweet smelling perfume was not for the benefit of Moses or any of the Israelites, but rather **“it shall be unto thee holy for the LORD”** (vs. 37).

This tabernacle where these God pleasing scents were to be, was called *“The tent of meeting or dwelling place”*. It was a movable sanctuary for the Ark of the Covenant during the Exodus of the Israelites. Sacrifices were offered here, Israel met with God here, and it was here that they were to worship the LORD. When the incense was burned, the smoke and scent ascended up toward Heaven and all that were around the Tabernacle knew that worship of God was underway.

When we worship in Spirit and in Truth, it has a way of making its presence known unto all that have gathered in His name. Remember when Mary took the very costly ointment of spikenard and anointed the feet of Jesus? We are told in John 12:3 that **“the house was filled with the odour of the ointment”**.

True worship service is to be continual, not sporadic. As the Israelites were instructed to offer the sweet scents unto the Lord in worshiping on a regular basis, we too need to not forsake **“the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”** (Hebrews 10:25). Then In John 4:23-24 we find the Lord saying, **“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and truth.”** When we do this on a

regular basis it brings a sweet scent (smell) unto the Lord which pleases Him. Should not that be our purpose, to please Him?

Notice the words of Paul in Ephesians 5:2, “...walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour” (scent). The apostle also said, “For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ...” (II Corinthians 2:15). The word “savour” means a pleasant taste or smell to be enjoyed. When God’s children present their bodies as a living sacrifice unto the Lord, it brings a sweet, pleasing aroma unto “**the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;...**” (I Timothy 6:15).

Exodus 30:34-38 not only expresses the importance of our proper and pleasing worship of the Lord, it has an expressed warning of which God’s people need to take heed. The warning is: “**ye shall not make to yourselves...**” (vs. 37), and followed up by the consequence - “**Whosoever shall make like unto that, to smell thereto, shall even be cut off from his people**” (vs. 38). This was not for their benefit nor for their own glory. We must remember the words of the Lord to Isaiah, “**I will not give my glory unto another**” (Isaiah 48:11).

So, what does all of this mean? When we worship, do not do so for show or to bring self recognition, but to glorify the name of the Lord which brings a sweet smelling scent unto Him. End result? God is pleased! “**Think About IT!**”