

# Incense and Anointing Oil

## Holy Incense

Ex 30:34-35 (NRSV) יְהוָה said to Moses: Take sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum, sweet spices with pure frankincense (an equal part of each), 35 and make an incense blended as by the perfumer, seasoned with salt, pure and holy;

The Hebrew for *incense* is: ketoret קְטֹרֶת H7004 *incense, smoke, sweet smoke of sacrifice* from קָטַר Katar H6999 *to sacrifice, burn incense, burn sacrifices, make sacrifices smoke ...* Strong's: ... *the idea of fumigation in a closed place and perhaps driving out the occupants!!! to smoke, i.e. turn into fragrance by fire (especially as an act of worship) ...*

Hebrew words for the spices (equal part of each):

Sweet spices In Hebrew it only says sweets סָמִים H5561 סָם sam Used 17x in 15 verses but only referring to sweet incense (ketoret) or a couple times as sweet spices, describing the ingredients of the ketoret.

Stacte H5198 נֹטֶף nataph noun (masc) *drop, gum*. Used 2x only.

Oyncha H7827 שַׁחֲלֵת shakhalet from H7826, שַׁחַל shakhal used as lion 4 times, fierce lion 3 times. (See below.)

Galbanum H2464 חֶלְבֵנָה khalbenah, used 1x from H2459 חֶלֶב fat, ... choicest, best part. Used 92x. (This is the one they say has a foul smell, but acquires a pleasant aroma when mixed with these other spices.)

Frankincense (pure) H3828 לְבוֹנָה from lavan white.

[The Jewish writings say the ketoret has 11 ingredients. So they include more spices in their list.]

## Salt

The incense ingredients possibly also includes salt:

Ex 30:35 KJV *And thou shalt make it a perfume, a confection after the art of the apothecary, tempered together, pure [and] holy:*

NRSV: *and make an incense blended as by the perfumer, seasoned with salt, pure and holy;*

CJB: *and make incense, blended and perfumed as would an expert perfume-maker, salted, pure and holy.*

Hebrew: מִמְלַח mi-malakh, [H4414 מֵלַח](#) a prim. root. 1) to tear away, dissipate, ... to be dispersed 2) to salt, to season...

Hebrew for *salt*: [H4417 מֶלֶךְ](#) melekh - from the root word [H4414 מֵלַח](#) (above).

We are supposed to be *the salt of the earth*. Perhaps our prayers which are like incense (see below) are a huge part of us being salty!

## Our Prayers as Incense

The incense burning on the altar of incense represents our prayers as shown in these verses:

Rev. 5:8 (NRSV) *...each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.*

Rev. 8:4 (NRSV) *...and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God... .*

Psalm 141:2 (Complete Jewish Bible) *Let my prayer be like incense set before you...*

So, in addition to our prayers blessing the Lord and blessing His people and being our petitions and our crying out to Him, it looks like, from the root meaning of *incense*, that our prayers are also supposed to help fumigate out the enemy from this earth!!!

Amen! Let's do it! Let's resist the enemy and rebuke him and his hosts and speak to them to "be removed and cast into the sea!" Could the "sea" mean the "lake of fire"? That's where he and his army will be in the end!

(See insight about Frankincense and the Cedars of Lebanon for more.)

## Lion

Now about the word shakhalet [H7827](#) שחלת that is one of the spices in the incense whose root word שחל shakhal means *lion* or *fierce lion*.

First here is another word for *lion* that means *young lion*:

Young lion כפיר [H3715](#) k'fir [H3715](#), *young lion (almost 30 times), village (used once)* from כפר kafar [H3722](#) to cover, purge, make an atonement.

Here is the word for *fierce lion*:

Lion שחל shakhal [H7826](#), used as lion 4 times, fierce lion 3 times. [The root of [H7827](#) שחלת ingredient in the Holy incense. (See above.)]

Here's the significance I see from this. As a young lion, Yeshua became our atonement!! (*Atonement* is the meaning of the root word for *young lion*.) As the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Rev. 5:5), Yeshua is a fierce lion that fumigates—drives out—the enemy (in Rev. 19)!!

## Anointing Oil

Anointing oil – shemen hamishkhah - שֶׁמֶן הַמִּשְׁחָה [H4888](#)

Ex. 30:22-29 The Lord spoke to Moses: 23 Take the finest spices: of liquid myrrh five hundred shekels, and of sweet-smelling cinnamon half as much, that is, two hundred fifty, and two hundred fifty of aromatic cane, 24 and five hundred of cassia—measured by the sanctuary shekel—and a hin of olive oil; 25 and you shall make of these a sacred anointing oil blended as by the perfumer; it shall be a holy anointing oil. 26 *With it you shall anoint the tent of meeting and the ark of the covenant, 27 and the table and all its utensils, and the lampstand and its utensils, and the altar of incense, 28 and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the basin with its stand; 29 you shall consecrate them, so that they may be most holy; **whatever touches them will become holy.***

Moses was to anoint everything in the Tabernacle with perfumed anointing oil. Then whatever touches them will become holy (Ex. 30:26-29; 40:9-10), including the altar after making a daily sin offering of a bull for 7 days (Ex 29:35-37). Moses did this when he set up the Tabernacle (Nu 7:1) and at Aaron's ordination (Lev. 8:10-12). (I can't find anywhere else that says when and how often to do this.)

Hebrew words for *anointed*:

Lev 4:3,5,16; 6:22 Priest that is anointed – מָשִׁיחַ [H4899](#) - Mashiakh [H4899](#) - Messiah !!!

Lev 8:12 “anointing oil” - **שֶׁמֶן הַמִּשְׁחָה** shemen (oil [H8081](#)) ha-mishkhah (the anointing [H4888](#)), “and anointed” v’y’mashakh **שִׁוִּימָה** [H4886](#) - anointed-m’shakh- **חֲשַׁח** [H4886](#)

The same words are used for anointing the kings!! Did they use the holy anointing oil???? Maybe?

The same word is also used in Isaiah 61:1-2 *The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,*

So, Yeshua, our Messiah is THE ANOINTED ONE!! OUR HIGH PRIEST!! OUR KING OF KINGS! Being our Messiah means all that!! He brings us to **יְהוָה** Himself. He wears our names over His heart and bears them on His shoulders! He intercedes for us before the Mercy Seat before the Father. [See “Cohen’s (Priest’s) Vestments” for more on this.] Our Messiah has made the once-for-all atonement for us. And He reigns over our lives and over the world as THE KING!! There is so much more depth of meaning in being the Messiah!! Tons more than we can go into here.

## The ingredients of the Holy Anointing Oil:

finest (head, top) spices **בְּשָׂמִים רִאשִׁים** besemim rosh. H1314 *spice, balsam, perfume, sweet, sweet smell*. Used 29x (Queen of Sheba brought besem.) From **בֶּשֶׂם** ([H1313](#)) *spice, balsam, sweet, sweet smell*. Used only 1x in Song of Solomon 5:1  
liquid myrrh 500 shekels **מֵרְדֵּר** H4753 *myrrh, an Arabian gum from bark* From **מָר** ([H4843](#)) *bitter*, Used 17x. **דֶּרֶר** H1865 *deror a flowing, free run, liberty* Used 8x to proclaim liberty on Jubilee, in Isaiah 61:1-2 etc.!!  
sweet-smelling cinnamon 250 **קִנְמֹן** [H7076](#) *qinnamon cinnamon, a fragrant bark*, prim root meaning to erect.  
aromatic cane 250 **קֶנֶה** [H7070](#) *reed, stalk, bone, balances,.. water-plant, .. measuring-rod, beam (of scales), shaft (of lampstand)*. Used 62x reed 28x, branch 24x, From **קָנָה** ([H7069](#)) *qanah to get, acquire,... buy, creating, redeeming ... used as buy 46x, get 15x, purchased 5x, .... recover 1x, redeemed (a house) 1x*.  
cassia 500 **קָדָה** H6916 *qadah cassia* From **קָדַד** ([H6915](#)) *qadad to bow down* Used 15x usually with “and worshipped”  
olive oil, a hin **שֶׁמֶן זַיִת** shemen [H8081](#) *oil, ointment, fat, fatness*, From shemen H8080 to become fat.  
[H2132](#) **זַיִת** zayit *Olive, olive tree* From **זָר** ([H2099](#)) *zev brightness. Name of the second month of the year. Used only 2x and only as the month*.

So, we have these root meanings from all the ingredients of the Holy Anointing Oil: *head spices, sweet, bitter – flowing, free run, liberty – to proclaim Jubilee, to erect, reed or measuring rod, beam of a scales, branch (of Menorah) - to get, to buy, creating, redeeming, purchased, recover, redeemed (a house), to bow down (and worship), oil, to become fat, brightness.*

Yeshua, THE ANOINTED ONE, the branch, the Menorah—the Light of the World—created us and redeemed us from sin—purchased us by His blood, brought us to recovery. Now we can stand erect and measure up, even by His measuring rod and His scales. Repentance is bitter at first, but it brings us to freedom. It removes what was blocking us from coming to Him and causes the Living Water to flow freely in us and through us. It brings us to our Jubilee with Yeshua. We bow down and worship Him and He anoints us with His oil that makes us spiritually fat and healthy. He makes us shine with His brightness into this world.

## Unity as Beautiful as Anointing

Psalms 133:1-2 (KJV) *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! 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* [NRSV: collar. Hebrew is *peh* (mouth)] *of his garments;*

Garment: *וּתְיֹמֶדֶת* (הַדָּמָה [H4060](#)) measure 37x, stature 4x, garment 1x. [The Cohane HaGadol's (High Priest's) garment was worn only by the one born into the lineage and who had gone through the purification and ordination—only the one who measured up to the stringent requirements.]

Beard is *zaqan*, root is *to be old, to become old.*]

Notice that the oil touches his head (hair), beard, and garment, but not his skin. The LORD said it is not to touch the flesh:

Exodus 30:32 (KJV) *Upon man's flesh shall it not be poured, neither shall ye make any other like it, after the composition of it: it is holy, and it shall be holy unto you.*

So the holy anointing oil is poured generously upon “anointed one,” but without touching his flesh. The ceremony of ordination was a beautiful, solemn, sacred, amazing, very meaningful thing! And unity is as beautiful and meaningful it says in Psalms 133 (above). And since the anointing oil could not touch flesh, perhaps unity cannot come if there is too much “flesh” still in us. Perhaps the requirement for anointing is also a requirement for unity to happen.

So, to be anointed, our flesh should be crucified with Messiah and we must be clothed with the robe of His righteousness, so that the oil is not poured upon our flesh.

Although in Joel 2:29-29 (KJV) *יְהוָה* says: *And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit.*

Perhaps God knows that if He waited until we were completely free of the “flesh,” His Spirit could never be poured out. For proof of this, just look at the dis-unity in churches and congregations all over and all through the ages, even starting in Acts. It is most likely so.

The same word *flesh* [H1320](#) *בָּשָׂר* is used in both passages. But you will be amazed at what the root word means! The root word is [בָּשָׂר](#) ([H1319](#)). It means *to bear news, bear tidings, publish, preach, show forth ... to gladden with good news (!!!) ... to announce (salvation) as good news, preach.... (Hithpael tense) to receive good news!!!!*

So, Yeshua has chosen to come in a body of flesh to bring us the GOOD NEWS of SALVATION. And He has chosen to use us while we are in the flesh—anointed in the “flesh”—in our imperfections—to announce the GOOD NEWS to the world!!! (I have discovered, as perhaps have you, that even the most “spiritual” people, even the most productive evangelistic people, bringing lots of people into the Kingdom—have fleshly flaws. Yet God continues to use them and us. Praise His Name!

The word *anointed* is the same word for *Messiah*. May we continue to allow Yeshua to purify us and make us whole until we are more and more like Him. The best anointing will come when we are one with Messiah. This anointing is when everyone we touch through laying on of hands and through our prayers becomes healed and whole, just as it was for Yeshua!! Everyone He touched or who touched

Him was healed. Even the dead were raised when He touched them! This same power of the HOLY Anointing Oil was poured out on Peter (Kefas) and on Apostle Paul (Sha'ul)!

**Prayer:**

Yeshua Adonai, please help us to reach the place where we can receive this kind of anointing from Your Holy Anointing Oil.