

The Origin of the Anointing

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“But you have an anointing from the Holy One.”

1 John 2:20 NIV

After Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt, God instituted priests and elders to help him govern. To set these leaders apart, God prescribed a symbolic anointing oil (Exodus 30:22–33) that would be a visible sign of receiving the Holy Spirit. This anointing oil contains some very interesting characteristics:

Myrrh, a resin from a briar, represents *humility*. God specified that the myrrh used in this anointing oil had to be the kind that flowed out by itself; it could not be obtained from cutting the branches. This signifies the humility that a person will experience as the Holy Spirit comes upon him—freely flowing, not coerced; a pure offering of life from within.

Cinnamon represents *boldness*. Cinnamon seeds are dispersed just like dandelions, with little parachutes on top. These seeds can land in all sorts of inhospitable places, but they are able to draw nutrients from almost anywhere. They can grow wherever they land, even in unfavorable conditions. God’s anointing makes us bold against the darkness. When we have His Spirit, we will not fear, even when we encounter hard situations.

Calamus represents *healing*. Calamus acts much like cortisone, with a broad-spectrum effect to ease pain. The anointing of the Holy Spirit in our lives also has a broad-spectrum effect across body, soul and spirit.

Cassia, from the laurel family, represents *love*. It tastes and smells sweet and lovely. Love is the greatest power in the scale of values in the Bible. When the Holy Spirit fills you, you operate in His love.

Olive oil represents *unity*. According to God’s anointing oil recipe, the olive oil brings all the other ingredients together in harmony. So does the Holy Spirit bring individual people together and into harmony. He causes us to function together as one Body, even though we have many different gifts and abilities.

Remember, *“It is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us”* (2 Corinthians 1:21). Let the Holy Spirit flow over you like anointing oil and receive all the benefits of His presence in your life!

What is the Holy Spirit saying to me?

ACTIVATION

- Reflect on the characteristics of humility, boldness, healing, love and unity.
- Allow the anointing oil of the Holy Spirit to flow down over you, releasing all those qualities as you surrender to Him.

FURTHER STUDY

Philippians 2:3; Acts 4:29; Acts 10:38; Romans 5:8; Romans 15:5