



The Fragrance of the Lord

Genesis 8:20-22

20. Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.
21. And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done.
22. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

This was a sacrifice of thanksgiving and gratefulness

Sacrifices recorded in Leviticus were to atone for the sin of the people, they are a concrete expression of God's justice and grace.

Leviticus 1:9

.... the priest is to burn all of it on the altar. It is a burnt offering, a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD.

Worship in the Tabernacle

Exodus 30:34-38

34. The LORD said to Moses, “Take sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum, sweet spices with pure frankincense (of each shall there be an equal part),
35. and make an incense blended as by the perfumer, seasoned with salt, pure and holy.
36. You shall beat some of it very small, and put part of it before the testimony in the tent of meeting where I shall meet with you. It shall be most holy for you.
37. And the incense that you shall make according to its composition, you shall not make for yourselves. It shall be for you holy to the LORD.
38. Whoever makes any like it to use as perfume shall be cut off from his people.

Beware of the enemy's and the world's imitations

Ezekiel 6:13-14

The curse that comes on the land and the people of those who make false offerings to idols is evident to this very day.

Jesus Christ - the final and ultimate sacrifice for sin

Ephesians 5:1-2 (Amplified Bible)

1. **THEREFORE BE** imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father].
2. And walk in love, [esteeming and delighting in one another] as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a slain offering and sacrifice to God [for you, so that it became] a sweet fragrance.

**Jesus' obedience and sacrifice
became a sweet fragrance to His Father**

Mark 1:11

And a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

2 Corinthians 2:14-15 (Amplified Bible)

14. But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph [as trophies of Christ's victory] and through us spreads and makes evident the fragrance of the knowledge of God everywhere,
15. For we are the sweet fragrance of Christ [which exhales] unto God, [discernible alike] among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing:

2 Corinthians 2:16-17 (Amplified Bible)

16. To the latter it is an aroma [wafted] from death to death [a fatal odor, the smell of doom]; to the former it is an aroma from life to life [a vital fragrance, living and fresh]. And who is qualified (fit and sufficient) for these things? [Who is able for such a ministry? We?]
17. For we are not, like so many, [like hucksters making a trade of] peddling God's Word [shortchanging and adulterating the divine message]; but like [men] of sincerity and the purest motive, as [commissioned and sent] by God, we speak [His message] in Christ (the Messiah), in the [very] sight and presence of God.

Christ within us - a fragrance pleasing to God

1. The Aroma of Our Repentance

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Psalm 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said 'Repent,'
He intended that the entire life of believers should be repentance.

Martin Luther

2. The Aroma of Our Witness

2 Corinthians 2:14-16

.... the fragrance of the knowledge of [Jesus Christ] everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.

It pleases God to see His Son glorified in the courageous testimonies of those He came to save.

3. The Aroma of Our Prayers

Prayers of:

Thanksgiving (1 Timothy 2:1)

Forgiveness (1 John 1:9)

Intercession (1 Timothy 2:1)

Praise and adoration (Psalm 148:1–14)

Utter dependence (Matthew 7:7)

Seeking wisdom (James 1:5)

Petitions and supplications
(1 Timothy 2:1; Philippians 4:6)

Seeking peace (Philippians 4:6–7)

Salvation (Romans 10:9–10)

Prayers for One Another (James 5:16)

Revelation 5:8

And when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Our prayers are precious and important to our Heavenly Father. By keeping them close to Him, He can continually enjoy their blessed bouquet.

Always keep praying.

4. The Aroma of Our Love

Our love for God, out of which flows our love for one another
and our love and compassion for the unsaved
- COMES FROM GOD.

1 John 4:19

We love because He first loved us.