

***“A bundle of MYRRH is my
BELOVED unto me”***

Song of Solomon 1:13



“A bundle of **MYRRH** is my **WELL-BELOVED** unto me”

(Song of Sol.1:13)

“Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved has a vineyard in a very fruitful hill.” (Isa. 5:1).

“Having yet therefore one son, his wellbeloved, he sent him also last unto them, saying, They will reverence my son” (Mark 12: 6).

These three references occur in association with vineyards. They comprise a picturesque setting for friendly fellowship of the most intimate kind, combined with a life that is fragrant and fruitful (**Song of Sol. 1: 2; 2:13**). The symbolism of myrrh, in the first reference, indicates the companionship and communion of perfect love, a subject that is dealt with more fully in the **first Epistle of John**.

In this Song of Songs, there is an entire absence of all such words as iniquity, transgression, and sin; no reference to the precepts of the law; and all doctrines of salvation, redemption forgiveness, and the like are omitted. The very substance of the message relates to love and the beloved, two words which occur sixty-four times. The well beloved is pictured in every relationship of intimacy with a marked integrity. We have no difficulty in applying these characteristics to Christ, who is called the Beloved Son on eight occasions in the record of the first three Gospels. Notice also, that this witness to Christ is from no less a source than the throne in the heavens.

We are not dealing with what we may call a temporary title for the time being, for Christ is essentially and eternally the Well-Beloved. Yea, He is the ever-blessed Beloved, beautified in holiness, magnified in preciousness, and glorified in perfectness. No substitute can ever replace Him in this capacity and no superior can ever surpass Him. He ever abides as the Well Beloved without either predecessor or successor, for in all stations of high rank He holds the pre-eminent

place.

The more we delve into the depths of our beloved Lord's moral perfections, the more difficult it becomes to select figures of speech that adequately set forth His intrinsic worth. However, let us note somewhat of the appropriate factors that apply in the use made of this lovely metaphor, *"A bundle of myrrh is my wellbeloved unto me."*

Myrrh is one of the most rare and costly of the aromatic gums; where used as a preservative, decay is retarded, and decomposition prevented. On this account the Egyptians used it when embalming the Pharaohs, and Nicodemus included this valuable and costly substance when embalming the body of Jesus (**John 19:39**)

Myrrh was also the most precious item used in the processes of purification in the royal household (**Esther 2:12**), and was considered by the wise men as being most pertinent to be included in a gift for presentation to the one born king in Bethlehem (**Matt. 2:11**). The Patriarch Jacob esteemed this choice commodity worthy of a place in his gift to Pharaoh, king of Egypt (**Gen. 43:11**).

We may find all these significant activities, in which myrrh was used, greatly enhanced by recalling the portrayal of **Psalm 45**. A majestic king is pictured emerging from ivory palaces in regal robes, all his garments diffusing the fragrance of myrrh (**Ps. 45: 8**). So we are not surprised to be told that the perfecting of beauty in Esther's preparation for her debut before King Ahasuerus was amplified by the use of oil of myrrh (**Esther 2 :12**).

These **FIVE FEATURES** alone are sufficient to warrant the use made of myrrh as representing the personal perfections of the Well-Beloved Son. When combined they assure **A PRESERVATIVE, A PERFUME, A PRECIOUS GIFT, A PURIFIER, and A PERFECTER.**

We are aware that all of these benefits and blessings are centered for us in the Well-Beloved Son **(Mark 12:6)**.

1. CHRIST IS OUR PRESERVER.

"Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father and preserved in Jesus Christ" (Jude 1).

"The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His heavenly kingdom, to whom be glory for ever and ever" (II Tim. 4: 18).

"The Lord preserveth all them that love Him" (Ps. 145:20).

2. CHRIST IS OUR PERFUME.

"Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour" (Eph. 5:2).

The anointing for priestly service was administered with a perfume **(Exod. 30:35)**.

The saints in Corinth were assured of this spiritual anointing **(II Cor. 1:21)**, as a result it is written,

"We are unto God a sweet savour of Christ" (II Cor. 2:15).

3. CHRIST IS OUR PRESENTATION.

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy" (Jude 24).

"Chosen in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love ... He bath made us accepted in the Beloved" (Eph. 1:4, 6).

"That we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus" (Col. 1:28).

4. CHRIST IS OUR PURIFIER.

"Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14).

"Put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith" (Acts 15: 9).

"If the blood of bulls and of goat, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh ... how much more shall the blood of Christ ... purge your conscience" (Heb. 9:13-14).

5. CHRIST IS OUR PERFECTER.

"After He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God. For by one offering He bath perfected for ever them that are sanctified" (Heb. 10: 12-14).

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. ... If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is perfected in us" (I John 4: 11-12).

"This also we wish, even your perfection" (II Cor. 13:9).

Let us remind ourselves again of these delightful words, "A bundle of myrrh is my wellbeloved unto me." The statement is like a fingerpost directing our attention and affection to the Well-Beloved, in all the dignity of His desirability, in all the attractiveness of His affection, in all the winsomeness of His worthy character, and in all the riches of His unbounded resource. However many valuable features myrrh may furnish, the Well-Beloved by far exceeds and excels them. For all those who love and trust Him, He it is who sanctifies, purifies, qualifies, beautifies, gratifies, justifies, and satisfies forevermore. He adds the perfume of incense to prayer, the pleasure of joy to praise, the positive guarantee in Himself to promise, and the pledge of certainty to the eternal purpose.

The Well-Beloved Son is the Father's love gift and He Himself is altogether lovely (**Song of Sol. 5: 16; John 17**).

This verdict never varies throughout the entire volume of revealed truth. He is lovely to memory in retrospect, He is lovely at present to faith in every aspect, and He is lovely to hope in prospect. This one predominant note peals forth perpetually from immortal lips, "**He is altogether lovely.**"

"Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense."
Song of Sol. 4:6

The Well Beloved

A bag of myrrh is my Beloved tome,
The sweetest fragrance tells me it is He;
His winsome presence draws my soul apace,
To contemplate the beauty of His face.

The sterling virtues of His purest mind
Determine loving deeds of every kind, For
He presents me in the home above,
With full acceptance to the Father's love.

My Well Beloved in whom I am preserved,
Prepares in Heaven a place, He holds reserved,
And I shall see His glory by-and-by,
His rainbow circled throne, beyond the sky.

The altogether lovely one is He,
The Son of God, who gave Himself for me;
He purified me through the blood He shed,
For on the cross He suffered in my stead.

The perfect Lover evermore to be,
Has pledged His Word to perfect even me,
For when we see Him, like Him we shall be,
A tribute to His triumph on the tree.

Oh lovely Lord, God's Well-Beloved Son,
Who saw on earth the Father's will was done,
And now is glorified at God's right hand,
With universal power at His command.

My Well Beloved, to me a bag of myrrh,
Thy precious perfume makes me all astir;
Oh draw me to Thy loving breast once more,
That I may truly worship and adore.

