

**THE HOUSE**  
**Week 3 – This House Smells Great**  
**11/25/18**

One of the common phrases in the earliest parts of the Bible is, “**a pleasing aroma to the Lord**”.

- *Genesis 8:21*
- *Exodus 29:18,25,41*
- *Leviticus 1:9,13,17 / 2:2,9,12 / 3:16 / 4:31 / 6:15,21 / 8:21,28 / 17:6 / 23:13,18 / 26:31*
- *Numbers 15:3,7,10,13,14 / 18:17, 28:2, 6, 8, 13, 24, 27 / 29:2, 6, 8, 13, 36*

The “**pleasing aroma**” was always connected to \_\_\_\_\_.

**EXODUS 30:7-10**

<sup>7</sup>“Aaron must burn fragrant incense on the altar every morning when he tends the lamps. <sup>8</sup>He must burn incense again when he lights the lamps at twilight so incense will burn regularly before the LORD for the generations to come. <sup>9</sup>Do not offer on this altar any other incense or any burnt offering or grain offering, and do not pour a drink offering on it. <sup>10</sup>Once a year Aaron shall make atonement on its horns. This annual atonement must be made with the blood of the atoning sin offering for the generations to come. It is most holy to the LORD.”

**JOHN 12:1-12**

Six days before the Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>Here a dinner was given in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

<sup>4</sup>But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, <sup>5</sup>“Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” <sup>6</sup>He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. <sup>7</sup>“Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.”

- **Fragrance / Aroma** – (**osme**, G3744)...which came from the root word (**ozo**, G3605)
- **This term meant: “to emit a smell (good or bad)”**; but could also be used of a corpse

*(2 CORINTHIANS 2:14-16) – <sup>14</sup>But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. <sup>15</sup>For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.*

**FOR THIS WEEK:**

- 1) **A VERSE For Your Memorization** – (ROMANS 12:1) – Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.
- 2) **A REMINDER For Your Encouragement** – (PSALM 141) – <sup>1</sup> O LORD, I call to you; come quickly to me. Hear my voice when I call to you. <sup>2</sup> May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.

- A.W. Tozer: “The fragrance of the anointing oil was unique. If someone went near an Old Testament priest, he could say immediately, ‘I smell an anointed man. I smell the holy oil!’ The aroma, the pungency, the fragrance were there. Such an anointing could not be kept a secret.”

*The other 2 locations are found in Ephesians 5:1-2 and Philipians 4:18-19 (if interested).*

### **Now, let's connect some dots here.**

- 1) **The Old Testament** – (**Aroma**) was important...connected to **Worship** and the **Priest**
  - a. (*Anointing Oil and Incense*)
- 2) **The New Testament** – Jesus indicates the act of Mary pouring out this perfume **was for preparation of his burial** – and that her actions are to continue to be retold

**Before we talk about US...let me ask you to contemplate something about the JOHN 12 story.** (For those of you who CAN SMELL – unlike myself)...**IMAGINE what that room and house smelt like...LONG AFTER the dinner was finished and the guests had departed.**

### **TALK FREELY**

- A.W. Tozer said the Priests couldn't escape the **LINGERING** smell of the **anointing**
- Mary filled an entire house with a **LINGERING** smell of **worship**

So, let me ask you a question – **WHAT SMELL LINGERS IN YOUR HOUSE?**

### **(SHOW)**

- Our LIVES are a – “Human House”.
- Our HOMES are a – “Family House”
- Our CHURCH is a – “Faith House”

**TALK FREELY** – Sometimes it **FEELS** as though our house doesn't smell great!

*And so what do we do...how do we handle that...*

**For us, I think it really, really matters where this story occurred! (**BETHANY**)**

- In previous weeks, we established that the Hebrew term for **house** was **BAYITH**
- And **BAYITH** came to be called **BET**, or **BETH**
- **BETHANY** – Came from **BEIT / AYNA** – meaning “**House of Figs, House of Misery**”

**TALK FREELY** – It's paramount our lives are rooted in an **OSME / AROMA** of **WORSHIP** – whether we are in a season of **FIGS (BLESSING)**...or a season of **MISERY (AFFLICTION)**

**From the John 12 story:**

- In less than **6 hours**...Judas would agree to betray and hand over Jesus...
- In less than **12 hours**...Jesus would ride into Jerusalem to a chorus of HOSANNA...
- In less than **36 hours**...Jesus cleared the Temple and a plot on his life advanced...
- In less than **6 days**...Jesus would be convicted, beaten and crucified...
- In less than **8 days**...Jesus would be resurrected...

*Let me offer one more concept for consideration:*

**ATTITUDE** and **POSTURE** are far more important than **ELOQUENCE** or **STATEMENTS**.

The information that Judas objected with...was accurate in content.

- However, he entirely was blinded from seeing the beauty of the worship.

The behaviors and extravagance of this lady...was culturally inappropriate.

- However, Jesus embraced the beauty of her worship.

**Churches across the world who gather to “worship” each and every week. (And quite often, there are 2 categories of folks arriving.)**

- Group A – **Brings worship**
- Group B – **Needs to be influenced to worship**
  - *Group A – Brings an aroma*
  - *Group B – Arrives fairly neutral*

My prayer for **all of us** here today...my prayer for **Bridgeway** (and our future)...**is that OUR HOUSE** (life, home, church)...**would SMELL LIKE WORSHIP.**

- No matter if you’re in the season of Blessing...or it feels more like Misery...
- No matter if you’ve got a group of supporters...or you feel judged and alone...

**My prayer is that you and I (together) – we would LINGER...and worship...**

**I’m going to ask a couple of the worship team members back to the stage...so that we can close with a moment of worship.**

**God had so clearly stated the morning and evening incense was a “*pleasing aroma*” to Him.**