~MYRRH (123)

- An aromatic gum resin.
- As a bag of myrrh my dear one is to me, between my breasts he will spend the night. (Song of Solomon 1:13)
- Until the day breathes and the shadows have fled, I shall go my way to the mountain of myrrh and to the hill of frankincense.
 (Song of Solomon 4:6)
- Spikenard and saffron, cane and cinnamon, along with all sorts of trees of frankincense, myrrh and aloes, along with all the finest perfumes. (Song of Solomon 4:14)
- I have come into my garden, O my sister, my bride. I have plucked my myrrh along with my spice. I have eaten my honeycomb along with my honey. I have drunk my wine along with my milk. Eat, O companions! Drink and become drunk with expressions of endearment! (Song of Solomon 5:1)
- His cheeks are like a garden bed of spice, towers of scented herbs. His lips are lilies, dripping with liquid myrrh. (Song of Solomon 5:13)
- Its precise source in ancient times is uncertain. But generally myrrh is the resin obtained from various thorny shrubs or small trees of the genus *Commiphora*, such as *Commiphora myrrha* or *Commiphora abyssinica*.
- These shrubs thrive in rocky areas, particularly on limestone hills. Their wood and bark have a strong odor. Although the resin exudes by itself from the stem or from the thick and stiff branches of either variety, the flow can be increased by means of incisions.
- Initially the resin is soft and sticky but, upon dripping to the ground, it hardens.
- Myrrh was one of the ingredients for the holy anointing oil.
- As for you, take to yourself the choicest perfumes, myrrh in congealed drops five hundred units, and sweet cinnamon in half

- that amount, two hundred and fifty units, and sweet calamus two hundred and fifty units. (Exodus 30:23)
- And cassia five hundred units by the shekel of the holy place, and olive oil a hin. (Exodus 30:24)
- Then you must make out of it a holy anointing oil, an ointment, a mixture that is the work of an ointment maker. It is to be a holy anointing oil. (Exodus 30:25)
- Esteemed for its fragrance, it was used to scent garments, beds, and other items.
- All your garments are myrrh and aloeswood and cassia, out from the grand ivory palace stringed instruments themselves have made you rejoice. (Psalms 45:8)
- I have besprinkled my bed with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon. (Proverbs 7:17)
- What is this thing that is coming up from the wilderness like columns of smoke, being perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, even with every sort of scent powder of a trader? (Song of Solomon 3:6)
- Look! It is his couch, the one belonging to Solomon. Sixty mighty men are all around it, from the mighty men of Israel. (Song of Solomon 3:7)
- The Shulammite maiden of The Song of Solomon appears to have applied liquid myrrh to her body before retiring for the night.
- I am asleep, but my heart is awake. There is the sound of my dear one knocking! Open to me, O my sister, my girl companion, my dove, my blameless one! For my head is filled with dew, the locks of my hair with the drops of the night. (Song of Solomon 5:2)
- I got up, even I, to open to my dear one, and my own hands dripped with myrrh and my fingers with liquid myrrh, upon the hollows of the lock. (Song of Solomon 5:5)
- Massages with oil of myrrh were included in the special beauty treatment given to Esther.

- And when the turn of each young woman arrived to go in to King Ahasuerus after it had happened to her according to the women's regulation for twelve months, for that was the way the days of their massage procedure were gradually fulfilled, six months with oil of myrrh and six months with balsam oil and with the massages of the women. (Esther 2:12)
- Myrrh was also one of the substances employed in preparing bodies for burial.
- Nicodemus also, the man that came to him in the night the first time, came bringing a roll of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds of it. (John 19:39)
- So they took the body of Jesus and bound it up with bandages with the spices, just the way the Jews have the custom of preparing for burial. (John 19:40)
- It was apparently viewed as having sufficient value to be presented as a gift to one born king of the Jews.
- After Jesus had been born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, look! Astrologers from eastern parts came to Jerusalem. (Matthew 2:1)
- Saying; Where is the one born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when we were in the east, and we have come to do him obeisance. (Matthew 2:2)
- And when they went into the house they saw the young child with Mary its mother, and, falling down, they did obeisance to it. They also opened their treasures and presented it with gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)