

Text: (Psa. 133:1-3) "It is like the precious ointment..."

Intro: There are things in the Bible that God likes, and things that God has said He despises. There are things God says please Him, and things He has said clearly displease Him. There are things God has said are a stench to His nostrils, and there are things that God has said are a sweet smelling savour.

I preach this morning on things that are a sweet smelling savour to God, or...

Perfume Pictures

I. (Psa. 133:1-3) Unity.

A. Very Few Things Are More Putridly Pungant to God Than Disunity.

1. Hardly anything stinks as much.

"These six things doth the Lord hate, yea seven are an abomination to Him...and hethat soweth discord among the brethren..."

2. David wrote this Psalm shortly after the joining of Judah and Israel as one nation.

> A great civil war had split them, but now they were ready to re-unite.

> **David is very pleased with the re-union of his people, so is God;**

> Therefore God leads David to write this Psalm.

3. Civil War is one of the worst kinds of horror.

> **War is never pretty. Though sometimes it is inevitable.**

> It is often necessary to fight to protect freedoms, and/or national liberties.

> **But, civil war is war amongst ourselves.**

> Brother against brother. American against American. Christian against Christian.

> **That is the very worst kind of war.**

4. Our own nation's civil war should convince us of this.

> In our Civil War, relatives fought against each other.

> **Christians fought against each other.**

> Americans fought against each other.

> **In our Civil War, we shed the blood of our own country men.**

> In this war we shot, stabbed, and bludgeoned our own brothers.

5. Nothing proves a nation's or an individual's fallen state more, than the desire to destroy one another.

> **Our nation had become a murdering mob.**

> Quick to shed blood, lovers of violence.

6. Even in the Church we find ourselves at war.

“Brother goeth to law against brother...”

“From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?”

7. God hates disunity.

"These six things doth the Lord HATE...!!!"

"But, if ye bite and devour one another, take heed, that ye be not consumed one of another"

"If ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not and lie not against the truth this wisdom descendeth not down from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish...!!!"

B. Unity is Like the Sweet Perfumed Ointment of Anointing(Ex. 30:22-33) .

1. Only the most pleasant ingredients used (v. 23).

> Each ingredient exactly specified and designed out by God, to exact proportions.

> **Perfect blend of each to produce the greatest and sweetest smell.**

2. The result became holy to God (v. 32-33).

- > No one could reproduce it, it was to be used only for God's glory.
- > **Once it became God's perfume; No one was to touch or defile it.**

3. Unity then has two vital aspect to it's nature.

- > First, it is pleasant and good, and holy to God.
- > **It is like a sweet smelling perfume.**

- > Second, to cause disunity is to take and defile something, that God calls holy.

4. Why must there be disunity among us? (Gen. 13:7-8).

- > **WE BE BRETHERN!!!**
- > We don't have to fight about everything.
- > **We don't always have to have our way.**

5. We are not fighting about, Great and important doctrines?

- > We fight about, Church decorations!
- > **Why don't we swallow are stinking pride, and get right with each other?**
- > Why don't we become a sweet smelling savour to God?

God loves Unity and hates Discord.

II. (Pro. 27:9) Hearty Counsel.

A. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

1. In a day of technology and information, people are still perishing for lack of knowledge.

- > There is a lot of information, but no knowledge.
- > **There are multitudes of books, but no knowledge.**
- > There are many teachers, but no knowledge.
- > **There are televisions, and radios, and newspapers, and computers; but no knowledge.**
- > God says, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

2. In a day when you can know instantly what's happening all across the globe, many don't understand what's happening in their own lives.

- > **The experts say the solution to all our woes is awareness, knowledge, and information.**
- > More information is what we need, more knowledge.
- > **Yet, with our increased awareness, with the arrival of the age of information, people are still perishing for lack of knowledge.**

B. God Has a Lot to Say About Hearty Counsel.

1. It will prosper, and protect you.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, ...but his delight is in the law of the Lord... and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

"Where no counsel is, the people fall; but in the multitude of counsellors, there is safety."

2. You can find good counsel, down at the house of God.

"We took sweet counsel together, and walked into the house of God in company."

3. There is a sharp penalty for rejecting God's counsel.

"Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity..."

"He that being often reprov'd, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."

> God says hearty counsel is as sweet perfume, but He warns of the danger, and judgment of rejecting good counsel.

C. Good counsel is sweet perfume.

1. It stings a little (Prov. 27:6).

- > Aftershave stings a little, but it also comforts and soothes, and smells good.
- > Sometimes the counsel of a friend stings, but in the end it comforts, and God says it smells good.

2. An enemy may tell you just what you want to hear, but he has his own interest at heart.

- > And, a friend's words may sting, but if he is truly your friend, he has your interest at heart.
- > God says hearty counsel is like sweet perfume.

III. (Rev. 5:1-8) The Prayers of the Saints.

A. God Says Our Prayers Become as Incense, and Sweet Odors.

1. Maybe this is why God commands us to...

- "Pray without ceasing..."
- "In everything give thanks..."
- "Let your requests be made know unto God..."
- "Ask and it shall be given, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you..."

2. Prayer makes a difference.

> And it smells sweet to God.

B. Prayer is like incense.

1. Incense is burning sweet aromatic herbs to produce a sweet smelling smoke.

> It was used in the ministry of the Tabernacle.

2. In Revelation, Incense is called...

“The Prayers of the Saints.”