

Rabbi's Reflections - Tuesday, January 27, 2026
Shalom {{firstName}},

Today is designated by the United Nations as Holocaust Remembrance Day. <https://www.ungeneva.org/en/meetings-events/events/observances-special-events/2026/01/holocaust-remembrance-day-27-january-2026>
Israel will memorialize the Holocaust on another day, usually in May.

Rabbi Trail: Before we dive into today's verse, I want to comment on the challenge of writing about my meditations on these next few verses of Psalm 45. The language used by the Psalmist is both colorful and symbolic, much like the language used in Song of Songs. This can presents challenges to understanding the symbolism. Now let's enjoy....

Psalms **Psalm 45:9(8) – Part 7**

Psalm 45:9 All your robes have myrrh, aloes, cassia. From ivory palaces, stringed instruments make you glad.

We have transitioned from describing this "King" as a "man" (**Psalm 45:3a You are the most handsome of the sons of men.**) to describing this "King" as a "bridegroom" with a "bride" (**Psalm 45:15a She will be led to the king in embroidered garments.**). In between these two verses, we have colorful descriptions. Our verse today, starts with the mention of myrrh, aloes and cassia.

Myrrh is well known as a costly fragrant spice which is first mentioned as being transported by the trade caravan into which Joseph was sold. In the New Testament, it was included among the gifts of the Magi to the baby Yeshua. Myrrh is the death spice, an embalming oil that represents death and mourning. Each of us must die to self to have life in Him.

Aloes are described in The Topical Bible as, "a symbol of beauty, wealth, and reverence, reflecting both the cultural practices of the time and deeper spiritual truths." We know it in modern times as an herb that soothes burns, probably necessary after we go through the fire. Its soothing qualities represent the consolations and comforts of the Lord.

Lastly, “cassia” is a precious resin valued for its strong aroma which is representative of His diverse graces. It is used (along with myrrh) in the formula for holy anointing oil. **Exodus 30:22 Moreover Adonai spoke to Moses saying, 23 “Now take for yourself the best spices: 500 shekels of flowing myrrh, half as much sweet cinnamon (250), also 250 shekels of sweet calamus, 24 500 of cassia, after the Sanctuary shekel, plus a hin of olive oil. 25 You are to make holy anointing oil from it, a fragrant mixture, blended as the work of a perfumer. It will be holy anointing oil.**

To these sweetly scented perfumes, let's add a little string music (at the end of our subject verse) for gladness, and we have the perfect setting for a most pleasant wedding night. **Revelation 19:7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and His bride has made herself ready.** Let's meditate on this more tomorrow. Shalom shalom.

Daily Bread, reading plan by Lars Enarson (<https://www.thewatchman.org/>)

Tue 27-Jan-2026 9th of Sh'vat, 5786

Ex 14:15-25 1 Ki 17 Ps 119:25-48 Jn 1:29-51 (1 Th 1)