

The Gift of Incense

Matt. 2:11 . . . Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

We Learned Last Week . . .

- The Magi arrived as much as ___ years _____ Jesus was born.
- The Magi came to Jesus to _____ and present _____.

They Presented Three Gifts

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

-- These gifts were very _____ and would help the young family during their _____ to Egypt.

-- These gifts were also very _____ of the life and _____ of Jesus Christ.

Frankincense

Ex. 30:34 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Take fragrant spices — gum resin, onycha and galbanum — and pure frankincense, all in equal amounts, 35 and make a fragrant blend of incense, the work of a perfumer. It is to be salted and pure and sacred. 36 Grind some of it to powder and place it in front of the Testimony in the Tent of Meeting, where I will meet with you. It shall be most holy to you. 37 Do not make any incense with this formula for yourselves; consider it holy to the LORD. 38 Whoever makes any like it to enjoy its fragrance must be cut off from his people."

1. The Greek word used for "incense" in the Matthew passage is "_____ " which is literally, _____.
2. Frankincense is the _____ of the Boswellia tree and is a very _____ commodity.
3. Frankincense was (and is) _____ to the Mediterranean people as an incense and _____.
4. Today, it is a symbol of _____ to Semitic people and is often used, mixed with oils, to _____ babies.
5. In Biblical times, Frankincense was not to be used in a _____ way. It was "_____ " and was only to be used by a priest in the _____ of God.

The Gift of Frankincense

1. Jesus was given frankincense because He would become our _____.

2. The High Priest offered the _____ for the people and the incense was a _____ of prayer.

Psa. 141:2 May my prayer be set before you like incense; . . .

Rev. 8:4 The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand.

3. The High Priest gave the people _____ to the the _____, the Heavenly Father. (*This was very frightening!*)

Lev. 9:7 Moses said to Aaron, "Come to the altar and sacrifice your sin offering and your burnt offering and make atonement for yourself and the people; sacrifice the offering that is for the people and make atonement for them, as the LORD has commanded."

4. Jesus is our High Priest and the _____ way that we have _____ to our Heavenly Father.

Heb. 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Eph. 2:18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

5. Our access to God was _____ on the _____!

Matt. 27:50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. 51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split.

Heb.10:20 a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,

The Lessons we Learn

1. The gift from the Magi was frankincense, but the gift _____ to us is a personal _____ with and access to the Heavenly Father.

Heb. 10:12 But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.

2. Jesus, as our _____, made us His _____!

Heb. 2:11 Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

1Cor. 16:20 All the brothers here send you greetings. . . .

Heb. 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

3. Because of our _____ with the Father, we don't need to _____!

Num. 6:24 "The LORD bless you and keep you; 25 the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; 26 the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."