

Of Mites and Myrrh

Passion of the FirstFruit

Part 5 - April 14, 2007

I have been asked to write Of Mites and Myrrh because God desires to bless His children by teaching us how to give. Some will not read these letters; some will read but not understand; some will read and understand, but simply not take to heart the instruction herein. Unto you who read and respond, the Lord gives blessings of inestimable worth.

Giving is not cleaning house and sending unwanted items to the goodwill store. Giving is taking off your warmest coat on the coldest day of the year, to wrap around the shoulders of the dirty homeless man. Giving is not collecting spare change to fill a baby bottle. Giving is welcoming the mother and babe into your home and caring for them until the mother can stand on her own. Giving is not writing a check for a tenth of your paycheck. Giving is cashing your paycheck, counting the bills, feeling your loss, yet still lovingly tucking them into the pocket of someone needier than yourself.

It has been very difficult for me to write about the firstfruit offering. Continuing with the theme of the fragrances and flavors of offerings, it is easy to imagine firstfruit offerings being represented by fruit; watermelons pregnant with their delicately flavored juice or starchy ripe bananas with no juice at all; sugar-sweet grapes or teasing-tart grapefruit; common red raspberries or exotic purple passion fruit. The hard part is condensing all I want to tell you about the firstfruit offering in words that will fit on one page.

The cup that our Lord drank for us on Golgotha was a bitter cup. When that Cup was lifted up as The Firstfruit offering, the Father was drawn by a fragrance and flavor no other offering could ever match -- Passion Firstfruit. For Jesus the Christ is The FirstFruit, and it is His Passion alone that allows the harvest of sinless humanity to be gathered in on that Last Great Day.

Year after year the men of Israel brought the first sheaf of grain in anticipation of a bountiful harvest, yet their focus was always on the harvest a few weeks away. The eternal purpose of the offering was clouded. As we walk through our days between the Garden and the Kingdom, we have the privilege of taking every opportunity to praise and serve our Lord. Giving a firstfruit offering is a special way of doing just that. It is not a requirement of salvation, only a way for your heart to touch the Heart of God.

Whenever you invest your labor and sow a seed, a harvest will come. When it has begun to ripen and you hold it in you hand, allow your heart to be quickened to remember the Passion of the Firstfruit. Then shall the Father invite you to come with heartfelt abandon and lay the very finest of your very first at His feet. With that offering you indicate that as a child of God you are under Divine Protection and all your burdens are carried by the Lord, including the burden of whether the seed you sow produces a bountiful harvest.

