

# AN EXPERIMENT WITH GOD'S ANOINTING OIL

by Chuck Weiss

Many years ago, I happened upon an article cut from the San Francisco Chronicle. It described how a eccentric Catholic Bishop of the time, Bishop Pike, decided to faithfully reproduce a recipe for the “anointing oil” that God gave to Moses in the Bible (Exodus 30). He found reliable sources for the ingredients described, Myrrh, Cinnamon, Cassia and Calamus, and mixed them according to the instructions given. The Bishop used the oil only once that I know of, during a full mass. He anointed the alter and then turned to face the congregation. As he looked out over the faces, he saw them come at him “in waves.” It seems that what he had reproduced was a powerful hallucinogen! (It was later sold in the Height/Ashbury of San Francisco as “Sacred Speed.”) In ancient times, not only was the alter anointed with this “holly” oil, the whole building was practically bathed in the stuff, pews and all. When the people went to the House of the Lord for religious services, they knew it was His house because they became mentally altered whenever they were there.

I forgot about the article, until recently when I started studying the subject of “Essential Oils” and came across the Bible verse mentioned. I decided to see if I could reproduce the good Bishop’s experience.

The results were mixed. After a half-hour of breathing the mixture from a cold air diffuser, I could feel that I was becoming altered. It was a mild LSD-like high, a definite hallucination. I think my two cats were more affected by the experience than I was. This was probably because of the great difference in body weight, because we all breathed the same air over the course of the evening. I expect that the intensity of the experience will vary greatly depending upon the quality of the oils used in the formulation, and the susceptibility of the subject.

NOTE: Only cold air diffusers should be used, especially if the oil or oil blend to be diffused is of good quality. (Quality varies a lot, and therefore so do the results.) The heat from hot air diffusers (usually a votive candle under a glass dish) can chemically alter the oil enough to reduce or negate the desired result.

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