

What's Your Scent?

2 Corinthians 2:12-17

"Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by [through] us in every place" (2 Cor. 2:14).

The word "**savour**," in this verse and also in verses 15-16, means "odor, aroma, fragrance." In John 12:3 it is used of the fragrance of perfume when Mary anointed the feet of Jesus. In Ephesians 5:2 the word is used of the sacrifice of Christ which was to God as a sweet-smelling savour [aroma].

For the saved person, God makes manifest the fragrance of His knowledge through us in every place. The imagery is that of a triumphant Roman march through the streets following a great victory. Incense bearers would march alongside the parade, and the sweet aroma of the incense would permeate the scene. This fragrance would have two different effects. To the triumphant soldiers it meant life and victory; to the defeated captives dragged along it meant defeat and death.

"For we are unto God a sweet savour [fragrance] of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: to the one we are the savour [odor] of death unto death; and to the other the savour [fragrance] of life unto life" (2 Cor. 2:15-16). Wherever we go as believers we can make known Christ and His victory, allowing the Lord to perfume our lives by His grace. As we seek to properly represent our living Lord and to point others to the Saviour, some will embrace the message of the Gospel ["life unto life"], while others will reject the truth, considering the message of the cross to be foolishness ["death unto death"].

Our job is to faithfully bear witness to the Saviour, allow the fragrance of His knowledge to be manifested and leave the results with the Lord!

May the Lord emanate His fragrance through us!

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org



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