

- Altar of Incense: 3ft x 1.5 x 1.5ft. Incense offered twice daily
- Incense linked to prayer: Ps 141:2, Luke 1:8-10, Rev 5:8, 8:3-4

### 1. Prayer is a privilege for Forgiven People

- Incense Altar (the privilege of prayer) comes after the Sacrifice Altar (forgiveness)
- Strong connection between altars—same name, design, time of use, coals
- Ex 30:10 – Incense altar had to be atoned for before prayer offered.

#### a) Christ's prayer for you is a blood-bought privilege

- High Priest offering incense a picture of Christ praying (Heb 7:24-25)
- Christ's praying is tied to the people he sacrificed himself for (Is 53:12, Rom 8:34)
- Without the cross Christ could ask for nothing for you

#### b) The Christian's prayer is a blood-bought privilege

- God hears all prayers, he may answer unbeliever's prayers, but he isn't bound to.
- Prayer is a family privilege to those brought into God's family through his Son
- "In Jesus' name"—the foundation of our prayers, the reason we can ask.

### 2. Christ prays for his forgiven people

- Almost right in the presence of God prayer is offered for God's people
- Christ prays for his people (John 17:9), every (17:20) and each one (Luke 22:31,32)

#### a) He prays Perfectly for you

- Incense is Holy, perfectly balanced, unique
- Christ's prayers for you – flawless, balanced, right

#### b) He prays Pleasingly for you

- Incense is fragrant, sweet, pleasing
- Christ's prayers for you – pleasing to the Father, not wearisome
- The Father delights in Christ's requests for you

#### c) He prays Powerfully for you

- The altar has horns – a symbol of power
- Christ's prayers for you – powerful and effective (Ps 21:1,2)

#### d) He prays Persistently for you

- Incense offered twice daily (Ex 30:7,8)
- Christ prays for you every step of the way (Heb 7:25)

### 3. Christ enables his people to pray

- Both a challenge and an encouragement to prayer. We aim, he enables.
  - Christ makes your prayers Perfect
  - Christ makes your prayers Pleasing
  - Christ makes your prayers Powerful (James 5:16)
  - Christ makes your prayers Persistent (1 Thess 5:17)

### Notices

Sunday Evening meeting at Day Centre 8pm

Tuesday Review and planning meeting 8pm

Sunday 26th Rev Jon Maginn speaking at evening meeting

### Presbytery News

Gateway Christian Fellowship formally established yesterday. Rev Stephen Neilly installed as pastor

Peter Jemphrey to be installed as pastor in Galway on 12th May



## The Altar of Incense

