

Could Lost Temple Incense Have Been Found? New Investigation Ignites Global Interest in Biblical Worship

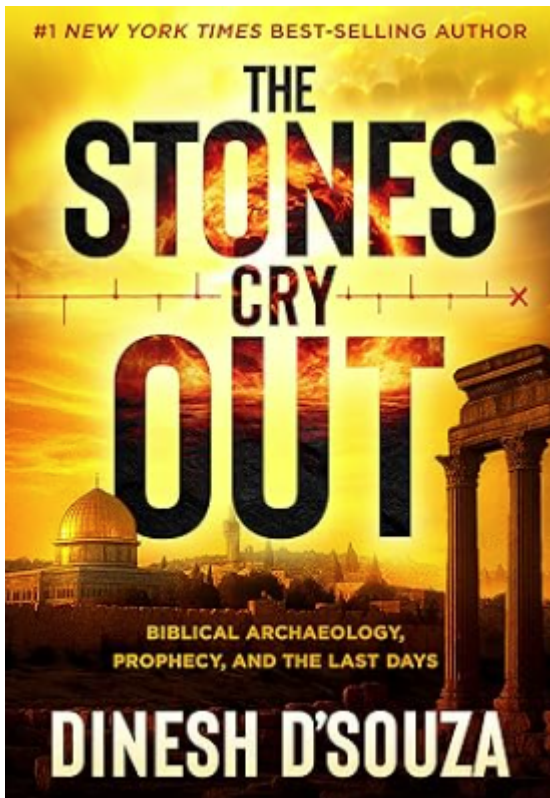
A newly released sourcebook is renewing interest in one of the Bible's most intriguing Temple elements after a former Texas pastor claimed more than three decades ago to have uncovered what may have been the sacred incense once burned before God in the Jerusalem Temple.

According to a report by Israel365 News, the book compiles 33 years of laboratory findings, eyewitness testimony and documentation surrounding a cache of fragrant reddish-brown powder discovered near Qumran in 1992 by Pastor Vendyl Jones. Researchers emphasize the material has not been definitively identified as the biblical Ketoret, [but new scientific testing is now planned.](#)

Why the Ketoret Matters

The Ketoret was the sacred incense God commanded to be burned every morning and evening on the golden altar inside the Tabernacle and later the Temple. Scripture also records its role during one of Israel's most devastating moments in the wilderness.

As the article notes, "And Aaron took it as Moses had spoken and ran into the midst of the congregation; and behold, the plague had begun among the people, and he put on the incense and atoned for the people. And he stood between the dead and the living, and the plague was halted" (Num. 17:12-13).



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The significance reaches beyond the Old Testament. Revelation describes the prayers of God's people rising before His throne like incense, reminding us that the imagery of the Temple ultimately points us to God's presence and His plan of redemption through Jesus Christ.

A Discovery Still Awaiting Answers

Jones believed the aromatic powder uncovered near Qumran was the long-lost Temple incense. Researchers who examined samples reported findings consistent with several ingredients associated with the biblical Ketoret, but none concluded the material had been authenticated.

The sourcebook itself acknowledges the remaining uncertainty, stating, "The sourcebook explicitly states that the material Jones discovered in 1992 has not been definitively identified as the Ketoret."

Researchers now plan to use modern DNA analysis, isotope tracing and advanced mass spectrometry to examine the remaining samples and determine whether they can establish the material's origin with greater certainty.

Looking Ahead

Whether the upcoming testing confirms the claim or not, the renewed investigation invites us to [take a fresh look at a remarkable part of biblical history](#). While we no longer approach God through the Temple's sacrifices and incense, we rejoice that Jesus has become our perfect High Priest, giving us confidence to come before God, knowing our prayers rise before Him.

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a journalism background from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and at the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of [The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man's Commentary](#) and a contributor to Charisma magazine. For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@charismamedia.com.