

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 41

“13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.” (Matthew 5:13 KJV)

We will continue in this message to study how to be the salt of the earth:

When Jesus said, ***“49 For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.” (Mark 9:49 KJV)*** To understand ***“and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt”*** we will read the Old Testament instruction of how to offer the sacrifices to God: ***“And every oblation of thy meat offering shalt thou season with salt; neither shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat offering: with all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt.” (Leviticus 2:13 KJV)*** Here Jesus in saying ***“and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt”*** referring to the teaching of the Old Testament and the Old covenant, ***with all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt***, where people offering sacrifices, not only the meat offerings, but the burnt offerings, and all others, were to be offered with salt; of which, the Jews say the following things: It is an affirmative precept to salt all the sacrifices, before they go up to the altar, as it is said in ***Leviticus 2:13***, with all your offerings (with all your ministries and services) you shall offer salt; ***“With all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt”***; ***(every greetings, thought, inclination, motive, word, purpose, action, decision, ministry, and service should be based on Scripture to glorify Christ using the characteristic of salt in words and actions to magnify Christ. In every worship, every family worship, every church worship, every prayer meeting, evangelism, discipleship, Bible studies, helping, counseling, there shall be salt taste in all these events)***.

And there is nothing brought to the altar without salt; except the wine of drink offerings, blood, and wood, the flesh is to be salted very well, as one salts flesh for roasting, who turns the part, and salts it. He that offers without any salt at all, is to be beaten; as it is said, ***“neither shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat offering.”*** The salt, with which they salt all the sacrifices, is from the congregation, as the wood. They put the salt in three places, in the chamber of salt, and upon the ascent of the altar, and upon the top of the altar: in the chamber of salt they salt the skins of the holy things; and upon the ascent of the altar they salt the parts (of the sacrifice); and upon the top of the altar they salt the handful, and the frankincense and the meat offerings, that are burnt, and the burnt offerings of fowls.

the salt of the covenant of thy God: It has a constitution and it has ingredients in our lives everyday; your covenant with God, your commitment with God and what He wants from you to do; what His Word dictates on you and what the Holy Spirit is inspiring you and speaking to you to do and achieve for Him.

Now a day the people of God no more using salt, but they are using chocolate and sugar coated candies, gifts, Christmas trees, Santa Claus, emotions, flatteries, immoralities, homosexualities and no one is speaking the truth, that is why COVID 19 invaded and more plagues God will send if salt attitudes, and salt messages will not be restored to our midst.

And every sacrifice shall be salted with salt; Now our Lord in this has no respect to the persons, and signifies here that the wicked in hell shall be under divine justice and under God's wrath and vengeance; and that as the sacrifices under the law were salted with salt, the wicked who do not repent and offer the parts of their body to God shall be salted with the fire of hell, and shall never be utterly destroyed; but shall ever remain awake in hell under the objects of God's sore displeasure; and fiery indignation.

Apostle Paul said, ***“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Romans 12:1 KJV)*** So we need to offer the parts of our body to the Lord to serve Him and to do His work. ***Jesus told us that we need to be the salt of the earth, that everything we do will give the salt taste in words and actions as God's Word teaches us and should go along the doctrine, and be willing to go and magnify Christ and His grace over sinners: living our life and looking to enter through the narrow gates: willing to suffer for Christ and continue to do His will, and to be strict in keeping His Word. In such manner we will be accepted.***

The Israelites whom God sent to exiles who sinned against God, caused them to scatter, but after they had repented God brought them back. Isaiah spoke about them how they will be brought back. ***“And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.” (Isaiah 66:20 KJV)*** Here the exiles who repented, they are said to be brought for as an offering to the Lord, ***“as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD”*** ***Therefore, as the sacrifices of the Jews were salted with salt, and became acceptable to God, we who are seasoned with the grace of God need to preserve ourselves from the corruptions of the world, to be acceptable sacrifices and offerings in the sight of God, and are kept safe to His kingdom and glory.*** Jesus will have respect to us, will have respect to the saints, to the people of God, who have holy living, and become acceptable sacrifice to Him; as referred in this prophecy of Isaiah.

“50 Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.” (Mark 9:50 KJV) ***Salt is good*** to make meat savoury, and keep flesh from corrupting and rotten; and so is the grace of God, to season men's hearts, make their lives salt savory, and preserve them from the corruption of sin: and so men will be made partakers of the grace of God; so they will be good and useful to others, both by their words and actions, and especially ministers of the Gospel, who are "the salt of the earth"; ***we are called to conserve the teaching of God's Word and the life of others, and that will be of great value when we evangelize to the new souls who are in need to encounter the right manner that they need to keep in their lives and that they should see it in us.*** But if we loss the saltness that Jesus spoke about and stress on us to have, then what an example or testimony we are giving to others and especially the new comers that we are reaching out?

Christ said to His apostles, His disciples and we are among them today: ***but if the salt hath lost its saltness, wherewith will ye season it?*** Then it becomes good for nothing, unless the disciples to repent and start again to live the life that God wants them to live. So we can link that now with ***Matthew 5:13 “Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt***

have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.”

Have salt in yourselves: *Check yourself and see if you have the doctrine of grace, the Word of Christ, the prudence in talk and conversation, and the holiness of heart and life and the graceful relationship and conducts with one another.*

“Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.” (Colossians 4:6 KJV) Let your speech be always with **grace, seasoned with salt** that is to observe the followings:

1. *to have mercy on the worse sinners.*
2. *to forgive those who repent.*
3. *to exalt Christ in our preaching who is accepting repented sinners, and who will do miracles to help His people,*
4. *to give the precise message, based on the doctrine, combating and condemning sins, strictness in holiness, and pursuing the narrow gate, and these we need to express in our conversation to the people around us whether they are believers or non believers.*

Have salt in yourselves by checking yourself and see:

- *If you are not behaving wisely towards them that are without*
- *If you are using the parts of your body, hands, feet or eyes for wrong purposes and away from the will of God*
- *If your attitude have pride, anger, jealousy, envy, competition, arrogance or despising others*

and have peace one with another; have peace based on the Scripture, based on what we learn from God’s Word, which the God of peace calls unto, the Gospel of peace requires, and the grace of God teaches. **Have peace one with another** that includes humility, accepting others, forgiving sinners, and be cleansed from pride, arrogance, envy, jealousy, competition and anger against others.

Salt is an symbol of firm union, concord, and agreement, that is why the covenant of peace is called a covenant of salt.

“All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer unto the LORD, have I given thee, and thy sons and thy daughters with thee, by a statute for ever: it is a covenant of salt for ever before the LORD unto thee and to thy seed with thee.” (Numbers 18:19 KJV) Here God promised that He will provide for the priests and to their sons and daughters, by giving them the heave offering which is the breast and the right shoulder of the animals that are offered to God. *“32 **And the right shoulder shall ye give unto the priest for an heave offering of the sacrifices of your peace offerings.** 33 **He among the sons of Aaron, that offereth the blood of the peace offerings, and the fat, shall have the right shoulder for his part.** 34 **For the wave breast and the heave shoulder have I taken of the children of Israel from off the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and have given them unto Aaron the priest and unto his sons by a statute for ever from among the children of Israel.** 35 **This is the portion of the anointing of***

Aaron, and of the anointing of his sons, out of the offerings of the LORD made by fire, in the day when he presented them to minister unto the LORD in the priest’s office.” (Leviticus 7:32-35 KJV) God promised to give them that with a covenant of salt. The covenant of salt is recognizing the beneficiary of that as they are doing the Lord’s work and they had freed themselves for such service. The breast and the right shoulder will be almost 25% of the whole animal that is offered. This 25% we can calculated now in such a way: The tithes is 10%, the first fruit is of one month which will be about 8.5% and the remaining 6.5% for the various offerings and vows.

So we understand now when we lost our saltiness and our distinction as the salt of the earth we are losing the covenant with God and the provision of God for us and for our families. In Christ we are all royal priesthood according to Peter writing; *“9 **But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;**” (1 Peter 2:9 KJV)* *Therefore all of us we need to be the salt of the earth in talk, in conduct and in relationship to one another as the Lord is providing for us. We need to be the salt of the earth not for the sake of receiving the provision of God but as well as to avoid the judgment and the wrath of God falling and executing His judgment on us in hell if we refuse to repent and amend our ways before Him.*

The covenant of salt in its distinction is similar to the covenant of peace with its distinction that we receive from God when we don’t compromise and when we give a salty and savory message to the world around us as Phinehas did with actions when He combated immorality from God’s camp and received the covenant of peace from God *“10 **And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 11 Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy. 12 Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace: 13 And he shall have it, and his seed after him, even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel.**” (Numbers 25:10-12 KJV)* *In the same way we are called today to combat with a salty message and precise actions the sins of the people of God. We are called to combat:*

1. *Their immoralities (dating courtings, divorce and remarriage, multiple marriage, fornication, and adulteries)*
2. *Their idol worship and the feasts of idols that they introduced in the church (Christmas and New Year celebration, Valentine Day, Father Day, Mother Day, Halloween, Harvest, Birthday celebrations and the rest of the idol feasts)*
3. *Their homosexualities and their condoning to the transgender attitude and actions, and the homosexual marriages*

The covenant of salt in its distinction is similar to the covenant of peace. The principles of the covenant of peace in **Numbers 25:10-12** where Phinehas put an end of the sin of immoralities in the camp of God, and the principles of the covenant of salt in **Numbers 18:19** *“All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer unto the LORD, have I given thee, and thy sons and thy daughters with thee, by a statute for ever: it is a covenant of salt for ever before the LORD unto thee and to thy seed with thee.”* would make us understand clearly the admonition of the Lord *“Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.” (Mark 9:50 KJV)*

My dear and beloved: Salt and peace goes together. The constitution of the covenant of salt and the covenant of peace is the same and that is how we to link it to what Jesus said in **Mark 9:50** **“Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.”** This also teaches us that we should have salt with one another as God is providing for us and He is sustaining us.

Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another is to

1. To condemn sin.
2. To forgive sinners who repent.
3. To have mercy on the worse sinners and believe that they can be saved by Christ who can change them.
4. To be strict in doctrine.
5. To exalt Christ.
6. Not to compromise or flatter.
7. To live a life testimony that goes along the Word of God.
8. Is not to use the parts of our bodies for wrong purposes.
9. Is not to have pride, arrogance, anger, competition, envy and jealousy toward others.

Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another: This exhortation, very appropriately upon the making mention of salt in different senses; especially, this exhortation was the more necessary to the disciples at that time, and for us today, to be away from pride, competition, jealousy, envy, anger, selfishness, worldliness, loving the world, and lack of humility, since they had been very lately disputing the point among themselves, who should be greatest in the kingdom of the Messiah, **“for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest.”** (Mark 9:34 KJV) and which had occasioned this discourse of Christ's.

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for your Word that made me see clearly my sins and wrong doings, and the way that I need to live and serve you to be a salt for the earth.

Confess to God your sins and renounce them. Ask God forgiveness for your pride, competition, anger, resentment, grumbling, doubt, worries, laziness, oversleeping, worldliness, worldly friends, your unfaithfulness, and ungratefulness, the love of money, the non willingness to suffer, the non willingness to discipline yourself in areas of attitude, character, spending, in non allowing the fruit of the Holy Spirit to manifest in your life, in flattering others compromising with them and non willingness to deal with sins.

Confess your sins to God. Lord forgives me the following sins _____.

Surrender your life and your will fully to the Lord abiding with the Word of God. Be willing to work with God to cultivate more of the fruit of the Holy Spirit to appear in your life.

Lord I commit myself to abide with this Word of yours that I receive in this message to be a good example to others around me who do not know you and to live and to preach the precise message of Your Word. Lord I commit myself to be humble, and to be willing not to compromise or flatter, but to face sinners and help them to come out of their sins. Lord I will work with you to develop the fruit of the Holy Spirit; love, joy, peace, gentleness, kindness, patient, long suffering, self-control, faith, faithfulness, gentleness, kindness, and generosity. Lord I commit myself to have love and compassion and forgiveness toward sinners and work out to bring your love and your message to them. Lord give me strength and patience to bear the pain and suffering while I am serving you and reaching others. Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit and have me fully to you. I surrender my life in full to you, Lord give me the gifts of the Holy Spirit so that I can go and serve you and evangelize and reach others and spread your Word and teach those who are willing to follow you.

Lord, I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who humbled down, accepted your Word and are willing to live their lives for you, to speak your Word, and to be good example to others. Lord protect them and provide all their needs. Lord work miracles for them and enable them to persevere in serving you as they are willing to evangelize, to suffer for you, to start new Bible study and to plant new congregations.

Lord bless us and sustain us as a church. Lord help us, protect us, and provide for us to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord give to us more of the Holy Spirit gifts to be ready to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the message of the Word of God. Lord, we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus' name, Amen.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

Note: The Bread of Life is a weekly publication from the Church of God, United Arab Emirates. For further issues and more spiritual enrichment you can visit our web site at: www.churchofgoduae.com.

Share the message with your friends.

Please share with us your view about the message and if you have any question.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

Please send your tithes, your first fruit, and your various offerings to the church to this account

BANK NAME:

First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)

ACCOUNT NAME:

RAMIZ BAHNAM ABBO KHALAF

ACCOUNT NO.:

1576003753162014

IBAN:

AE380351576003753162014

SWIFT CODE:

NBADAEEACPU

Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email:

thebread1@gmail.com.

If you need counseling in area of your life, whether about family, children or finances,

please be free to contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email:

thebread1@gmail.com.