

Love, Salt, and Leaven

When we offer our bodies as a continual living sacrifice it is like incense rising up to our Father, the lampstand never going out. This sacrifice is the means by which the lamp's wick receives and is saturated with oil that provides the light for the whole world.

Paul saw the waning of the first church (Eph 6:24; Rev 2:4). Restoration is going back to the condition of the first church before the start of this waning. It is a fact that every child of God has His love poured out in their heart. Rom 5:5 speaks of this poured out love. It is a liberal pouring that saturates the heart. This love lives in your heart. Now that we possess this love we must also pour it out. It must be an active love, the same love that He gives us. Jn 13:34 — This love we have must be given out, EVERY MORNING, we look one another in the eye passing on this love we have received. This affectionate love that we received and must now pass on may make us bold enough to give one another a holy kiss. Paul said this love, that we have, when it comes forth from us changes to affectionate love when we pour this love out on the brethren (Rom 5:5; 1 Cor 16:22). This is deliberate love. This love can't just stay in our heart it must be poured out.

If we don't have this affectionate love we really are cut off. If we have this love we can raise our hands this morning. The love in 1 Cor 16:22 is an affectionate, emotional love. We must function in this emotional realm of love and affection and stay in His boundaries. Jude 21 keeps us in this realm and boundaries.

1 Pet 1:8; 4:8; 1:22 — Ardently love one another. We must keep a hot, fervent love. We are exhorted to love with the love we have. You may think you don't have love but we must show the love that was shown to us. We know we passed out of death (death, being cut off) if we love in this way.

Love is not gossip, not godless talk. These are gangrene and cuts a member off. This is not loving your brother. Gossip and godless talk causes your brother to stumble and leads another away from communion.

Our Master said if you're not gathering you are scattering. Scattering is actually destruction. We can destroy with our words or we can build up with our words. We are still in darkness if we can't love. 1 Jn 3:23 — We believe and love as He commanded us. If we don't love in this way we are on the road to destruction. If we don't love we are judged for the second death, we are still in our sins. The love He commanded us to love in 1 Jn 3:23 is active and deliberate. It is a choice of our will. If we have this love in our heart we can deliberately love our brother.

1 Jn 3:16 defines love. 1 Jn 3:14 talks about if you will lay down your life for your brother. Is your affection so great that you would lose your life for that brother. Do you love that much? Do you have an affectionate, emotional love? Would you put your own life at stake? Can you count on each other in the day of trouble? 1 Jn 3:14 — Do you know in your heart that you've passed out of death into life?

1 Pet 1:8; 1:22; 4:8 — Are we active or passive in our love? Are we kind to one another? Do we ignore each other? Ignoring someone is the highest form of hate. The ignored brother was the one who needed encouragement!

1 Jn 3:16 — Would you love in this way? Do you have confidence you would love in this way? Would you step in front of a bullet to save your brother?

We must maintain this affectionate love for our Master. Eph 6:24 — We are to love our Master with an undying, eternal, incorruptible and pure love. This was the last thing said to the Ephesians. The next time we heard about the Ephesians was Rev 2:4, they had left their first love. What happened to the Ephesians' love? The oil of the Spirit must come from all of us to keep the wick burning. We must carry that light ourselves as a testimony. We must be a great light to all of South America. Mt 24:14 — The testimony comes from a people loving one another, having affection for one another.

This is the light to the nations in Isa 49:6. We must practice that love. Rom 5:1-5 — We have that love if we're (1 Jn 3:23) standing in this faith. Some are hard to love, we must be easy to love. Since we have love we can use that love. You may think you don't have that love but WE DO. We CAN be active loving one another (1 Jn 2:4; 3:14; Jn 14:15,21).

We must judge ourselves, things come out of us like words — vulgar worldly terms. We must put this behind us. 1 Cor 5:6 — What if one person here has just a little leaven? A little leaven corrupts the whole body. A little leaven of disobedience, godless chatter or vulgar talk. A person who dwells on these things will leaven the whole body. In the first church the whole body was leavened. If you are leaven and leavening the whole loaf you are rubbing off on your brothers and sisters. Leaven came into the first church, the body got puffed and spread to the whole earth as white bread. This is what we see in Christianity today.

The original condition of the Edah must be brought back to where people love like it says in Acts 4:32-35. They loved fervently and had abundant grace upon them all.

Jude 12-16 talks about a hidden reef, a cloud without rain, autumn trees without fruit, never anything good. It is saying “here comes the cloud, but no rain comes.” These were people in the community not giving anything out, they were going to the breaking of bread in this condition. Autumn is the time of the harvest but not fruit came forth. What is a hidden reef? What does it do? Why is it dangerous? Are you a hidden reef? Jude 16 is the condition of the first church after they were leavened, their love was corrupted. After this corruption people started coming in without the impartation of the Holy Spirit.

As in Rev 3:4 in Sardis only a few were left who walked with our Master. The rest had stained their garments, a stain with no remedy. These wouldn't enter the Kingdom with our Master. But those who did overcome won the victory because they deserved the victory. The ones with stained garments wouldn't expose the leaven and were defiled by it. They wouldn't confront the leaven saying, “I am not going to stand for this, I will not talk with you about this.” They wouldn't stand against godless chatter that doesn't build up. We need to be salt and be at peace with one another. The first church lost their saltiness. If we lose our salt we are good for nothing. Mk 9:49-50 — Everyone must be salted with fire to burn up the impure things coming into the Body. SALT KILLS LEAVEN and PEACE results.

Rebuke people who speak godless talk or you will be destroyed by it. At the end of Mk 9:50 you will have peace with one another if we have salt. We can't say Shalom when there is no peace or we are hypocrites. Are we hypocrites saying Shalom when there is no peace? We must rebuke some soundly so they can stand firmly in the faith. Salt kills leaven and makes the bread taste good. So let's have salt in us and kill the leaven. 1 Cor 5:6-8 — We won't be better than the first church if we don't have salt in us. Don't tolerate godless talk!

Mt 12:30 — If you are not ABSOLUTELY with Him you are ABSOLUTELY against Him. There is no middle ground. You must be hot in your affection to our Master. In Hebrew it is love or hate. We love our Master more than anything else or we are hating Him. You must hate your mother, father, etc. in order to come to Him. This is choosing Yahshua above everything else. He is your life. Mt 12:30 — Let us be for our Master. If we are for Him we WILL love. We then won't tear down with our words, coming against the anointing. The Holy Spirit coming to you is how you will be loyal and not shrink back when He returns. 1 Jn 2:27-28 and Heb 10:38-39 is how we won't shrink back (1 Jn 4:17).

Titus 3:10 — If you cause division in this Body or know of someone who speaks bad of the apostle, prophets, teachers, or the brothers and sisters or if they think they know more than any of them — take note of that man. Don't speak to them but warn them once or twice then have nothing to do with them. This person works against the anointing, against love and he is perverted. A perverted man is an abomination to God and to us. Ps 15:14 — We must despise a perverted man if we are to ascend to His Holy Hill. You must agree with God. This man should have come to the elders for an explanation of the teaching he didn't agree with. He is like a homosexual or fornicator who prowls around at night. 1 Cor 14:37-38 — Paul said if you don't recognize what I say God will not recognize them.

Let's raise hands meaning business — I'm here to do our Father's will.