

SALT

Recently I was praying about the protests and upheaval in our nation. God reminded me that Wichita, KS was the site of one of the earlier peaceful protests which helped ignite the civil rights movement in the United States. This peaceful protest occurred at the Dockum Drugstore in 1958. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dockum_Drug_Store_sit-in

As my prayer partner, Trisha Schmidt, and I were praying that evening we knew that we were to go the site of that protest to pray and call forth peace.

We felt led to take salt with us to sprinkle on the ground as a symbol of the Body of Christ being salt and light in our culture. (Matthew 5:13,14)

Being a salt nerd, my children have given me gifts of different salts. The Lord had us mix these salts together (pink salt, black salt, sea salt, kosher salt, Hawaiian red salt, and others). Each salt is intended for a different purpose with a different function, but ALL salty.

As I placed the different salts in the bag it was beautiful but it took some agitation to bring them together. Sometimes the Church needs to be shaken up a bit to become unified.

Our information said that the Dockum Drugstore was located at the SE corner of Douglas and Broadway in Wichita. However, my eyes read it as SW corner. Here's what's amazing, though. If we had gone to the correct corner we would have missed the following interaction.

As we approached the corner of Douglas and Broadway we saw 3 young adults standing across the street from the Dockum building. They were holding protest signs. One of the signs listed civil rights issues

throughout history in the United States since the 1950's. It was the perfect doorway to engage them in conversation. After introducing ourselves and asking their names we told them that we noticed that they are interested in history, but that they were missing an important date from 1958 that occurred across the street. They did not know anything about the Dockum Drugstore peaceful sit-in; so we gave them a history lesson. After which they decided to cross the street to peacefully protest from the original site.

They asked why we were there. We said that we love Jesus and that God had sent us there to pray. One of the protestors asked why we had salt. We explained the importance of salt to us in the physical realm.

We also explained that salt is a picture of the Body of Christ – we all look different but are all called to impact our culture with God's holiness, peace (explained Shalom Peace), righteousness, mercy, love, grace, justice, and His character. We blessed them before leaving to pray around the building and sprinkle some salt.

A few fun facts about salt:

Salt is a vital nutrient to the physiological requirements of the human body. Without salt we die.

Historically salt was so valuable it was used as currency.

“Salary” comes from the Latin word solarium, which has the root sal, or “salt”. In ancient Rome a soldier's pay was originally salt.

The idiom “worth its salt” refers to something of value because of how prized salt was in ancient history.

In North America some cities were created at places where salt was found. For example, roads developed where foot paths and trails were

originally cut by animals looking for salt. Villages were built at salt licks. One salt lick near Lake Erie had a wide road made by buffalo, and the town started there was named Buffalo, New York.

Salt comes in all colors and types. Certain cities in Europe are known for their salt with high quality. Almost every important city in Italy is near a source of salt.

In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries a large part of the German salt trade was carried on Hanseatic ships. The Hanseatics were well appreciated as honorable merchants who ensured quality and fought against unscrupulous practices. They were known as Easterlings because they came from the east. This is the origin of the word “sterling”, which meant “of assured value.”

Salt purifies and is used as a preservative, in medications, and of course in a myriad of foods to add flavor.

(Kurlansky, M (2002). Salt: A World History. Penguin Books)

I say all this to emphasize how important salt is to us. No wonder it is mentioned in the Bible in reference to the Body of Christ.

Salt was used as a sign of covenant; many covenants initiated by God were ratified by salt; covenant meals included salt. (Numbers 18:19). Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant, and His blood shed at his crucifixion ratifies that covenant; salt is an important component of blood. <https://www.1timothy4-13.com/files/proverbs/salt.html>

Some Bible commentators believe that salt was scattered over the ground, making the ground sterile, preventing the enemy from being able to grow crops. (Judges 9: 45).

So, we claim our covenant relationship with YHWH, made possible through the blood of Jesus Christ. Our covenant relationship with the Lord is one of our most powerful weapons against the enemy. Covenants are made with one stronger than you. We are God's blood-bought, covenant-caught children. We sow the enemy's camp with the salt of the Lord – making it impossible for the seeds of the enemy to sprout or take hold. We speak flavor, healing, strength, and purity as salt to our cities and nation. I decree and declare that all the differences designed in us by YHWH are blended into inseparable unity by the power of the Holy Spirit living in each of us; as a unified force making the coming Kingdom unstoppable. Nothing can interrupt, disrupt, or delay what YHWH is doing as we sow incorruptible seeds of the Word of God into our culture.

I say seeds of unity, grace, peace, love, holiness righteousness mercy be sowed now. All Glory to Lord Jesus Christ!