



GateView
Ministries

Salt Covenant — B'rit Melakh¹ **A Generational Provision**

GateKey Verse — Numbers 18:19²

“I give to you and to your sons and daughters all the holy contributions that the Israelites present to the LORD as a permanent statute. It is a permanent covenant of salt before the LORD for you as well as your offspring.”

Building the Kingdom of God and Enabling its Priesthood

First, let's recall the kingdom aspect that when we are birthed as citizens who follow King Jesus, we receive more than an entitlement to beneficial blessings. We also have the privileged opportunity to participate in the development and establishment of His Kingdom on earth. Eligibility is acquired through applied service as Jesus' disciples³ who are following His priesthood.

I like to say that when I am part of platform ministry, “I get to sit on the front row and must stay subject with a teachable spirit.” Conversely, if you are even in the back row, you are possibly influencing those on your right and left, coming in/out, or in the sound booth. No matter who you are or where you stand/sit in the House of the Lord, you are a leader and it's imperative to maintain a servant's attitude. From the back and forward, you affect those in the front. The expression on your face, bodily gestures, and general way you respond reciprocates back to the front leaders and gives an “at-ta-boy” and “go for it!” or indicates a necessity for them to multitask in intercession for a better outcome and response amongst the people. You are influential in how others can fulfill their assignment in the kingdom. It requires teamwork.⁴

Our generational objective is to raise up those who are willing to lay down their lives for others; not to raise up celebrities. ***“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”*** (Philippians 2:5-8 KJV; Isaiah 52:13-15)

The goal is not to merely build more church denominations, groups, or buildings; but, to build the church body and family into the maturity of Christ's stature (Ephesians 4:9-16). It is all for King Jesus and not for those who are building their own earthly kingdoms just by calling it a church they are building. Therefore, we come into alignment and support those doing an eternal service instead of a temporal work. Spiritual maturity is rightly responding to life's situations according to Biblical patterns of behavior. The more spiritually mature you are, the more patient you will be with those who are maturing.

¹ B'rit Melakh (pronounced as ber-eet' meh'-lakh).

² All scripture in this study is taken from the Holman Christian Standard Bible unless otherwise noted.

³ In Hebrew, the term of disciple is “talmid” (pluralized as talmidim), which entails being a learned student that is walking in the dust of the master. This means following and applying the footsteps of life in practical application.

⁴ TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves Ministry (i.e., corporately “More”)

According to Ephesians, Chapter 2:11-22, accepting Messiah includes that we are in the citizenship of Israel — there we are no longer foreigners to the promised covenants. But, we now share in the hope of God in the world. By the blood of Yeshua, we have peace to be One New Man in Messiah. The sacrifice of the cross causes hostility to cease and reconciles both to God in One Body. This is the Gospel of Peace and gives us access to represent Abba Father as a member in His household, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets with Yeshua as our Cornerstone. Together we become a whole building erected as a holy sanctuary and dwelling place in the Spirit.

Balance is achieved in the House of God with the Apostle establishing the KATAV⁵ (Greek: Logos) written Word of God; while the Prophet equally sustains the Word of God as Spirit-breathed NAVA⁶ (Greek: Rhema).⁷ All the while, the plumb line must remain centered on Jesus — DAVAR⁸ (the Word of the Lord) in the flesh. One of the greatest joys I have apostolically is activating the prophetic. On the other hand, prophetically one of my greatest joys is launching from the apostolic. When Jesus remains the cornerstone (center point) of ministry, everything can be done with balance and peace.

Someone recently asked me how to determine whether or not they should participate with others in a ministry activity. Sensing an unction of the Holy Spirit, the answer came forth as “Discernment by the Holy Spirit will always lead to the Gospel of Peace. Therefore, if you can evaluate whether actions promote peace or cause confusion, you can generally find out what spirit is leading them and whether you should participate.” In other words, and simply put, “Are they enabling the Gospel of Peace that brings unity in the Family of God? Or, are their actions bringing a distraction that facilitates disunity?”

Unjust leaders will be judged (Micah 3:1-4; esp. verse 2 in KJV)⁹ for ***“tearing off people’s skin and stripping off their flesh from their bones.”*** It goes on in Micah 3:5 to tell how false prophets will be judged when they lead people astray by proclaiming peace all the while declaring war. The end of Micah, Chapter 3 gives details about leaders who rule selfishly or with self-interest for personal gain, bribes, payment, and divination money all the while saying, ***“Isn’t the LORD among us? No disaster will overtake us.”*** Alas, Micah 3:12 says, ***“Therefore, because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field, Jerusalem will become ruins, and the hill of the temple mount will be a thicket.”***

What promotes the Gospel of Peace? Our intentional motivation must be the same as provided by Jesus who is ***“the faithful witness”*** in Revelation 1:4-6 (esp. verse 6; shown as follows). He enacted a generational provision forever by laying down His life and giving His blood as the ***“Firstborn from the dead”*** — birthing rulers of the earth — a Kingdom of Priests to God the Father and serving His glory and dominion.

⁵ KATAV כתב — written Word of God; the primitive root of KETUVIM, which is also used in the section for “The Writings” in the Old Covenant. This is also appropriate in the sense that the Written Word of YHVH is the KETUBAH (marriage document) and expresses God’s intentions for His people as a Bridal Betrothal.

⁶ NAVA נָבֵא (naw-vaw') — prophesy Word of God; the primitive root of NEVI'IM, which is also used in the section for “Prophets” in the Old Covenant.

⁷ Word fed; Spirit led. The deeper you are in the Word, the higher you can go in the Heavens and breath it out.

⁸ Ezekiel 13:2 holds excellent examples of the varying forms of prophesy, prophets, comparatively to ***“the word of the LORD”*** (דבר־יהוה — DAVAR YHWH). Revelation 19:13 in Hebrew calls Him “the Word of Elohim.” The Hebrew New Covenant (B’rit Chadashah) says of Yeshua, He is “the Word” (DAVAR) made flesh existing with God from the beginning (John 1:1-14). In fact, all three elements of the Godhead are seen from the first day of creation (Genesis 1:1-2) as God/El, Spirit/Ruach, and Light/Son (John 1:4-5).

⁹ Hirelings will leave the sheep unprotected, use and/or abuse the sheep, as well as mistreat assistant under shepherds as hirelings as well. Contrasts of a Good/Bad Shepherd — Ezekiel 34:2, 23; John 10:7-18. A promise of a good shepherd — Jeremiah 3:15, 23:4, 31:10. Instructions for good shepherds — Acts 20:28.

***Kingdom of Priests*¹⁰ — Revelation 1:4-(6)**

...Grace and peace to you from the One who is, who was, and who is coming;
from the seven spirits, before His throne; and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn from the dead and the ruler of the kings of the earth.
To Him who loves us and has set us free from our sins by His blood,
***and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father —
the glory and dominion are His forever and ever. Amen.***

Every kingdom paradigm and principle is founded upon what God established from the onset of creation. His created purpose for mankind was to bring forth a revelation of who He is.

Jesus Christ, our Yeshua HaMashiach, set us free by His atoning sacrifice. We are no longer estranged from God the Father. Sin caused us to “miss the mark” of identifying with the divine image we were created to depict.¹¹ Grace and peace come from Jesus as “the One” true God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are resurrected from spiritual death unto life as we follow His rebirth. Resurrection life positions us to rule and reign as an extension of who He is — as His prophets, priests, and kings in the earth realm — in a generational assignment.

Do we really want to know Jesus as Savior and Lord? Then we must seek out and discover what He came to fulfill. The more we know what Jesus came to this earth to accomplish, the more we will love and appreciate the fulfillment. Christians may say, “Isn’t it sad that Jews do not know that Jesus fulfills being Messiah?” Equally disconcerting is that a majority of the church does not know what He came to fulfill.

This is a New Covenant paradigm. What Christians refer to as the New Testament does not replace the Old Testament Covenant. In fact, as it is said, **“The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed; the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed.”** Jesus’ Hebrew Name, “Yeshua” means “Salvation” and He is literally the Word made flesh. He is the central focus from the foundation of the world to His end-time return. It truly is all about Him and how mankind can be saved and restored to the divine image we were created to represent.¹² Yeshua indeed is the full development of every picture from the Bible — every Day, Feast, Character, Book, Symbol and Typology opens our eyes to see Him unveiled.¹³

There is a continuum and God is doing an eternal work. Everything in the Old Covenant points to the coming of Yeshua as Messiah. Everything in the New Covenant commissions believers to reveal Yeshua and to establish His Kingdom on Earth, as it is in Heaven.¹⁴ So that the whole Bible is about looking towards Messiah coming, His Believers as His Bride preparing themselves to have His character and attributes, and then looking toward Him returning for His Bride. The Bride is preparing herself¹⁵ while the Groom is preparing a place.¹⁶

¹⁰ Other scriptures establishing kingdom priesthood include Exodus 19:3-(6); 1 Peter 2:5, 9-10; Isaiah 61:6-9; Romans 12:1-2, 15:16; Revelation 5:10, 20:6.

¹¹ Genesis 1:26-27.

¹² The Word became flesh and dwelt among us (i.e., John 1:1-14; Psalm 85:9; Ezekiel 37:27) and by the Word all things were created and exist (e.g., 1 Corinthians 8:6; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 2:10; Revelation 4:11).

¹³ Colossians 2:16-17; Hebrews 8:5, 10:1.

¹⁴ Matthew 6:9-13.

¹⁵ Revelation 19:7-9, 21:2; Matthew 22:2, 25:10; Luke 12:36; John 3:29; Ephesians 5:23, 32.

¹⁶ John 14:2-3.

Coming to the House of the Lord is like a “Date Night” and an appointed time for the Bride Church to express her love and devotion to the Groom Jesus through praise and worship and the study of His Word. He’s prepared a table for us. Although the enemy would like for us to focus on anything but our Lord of Love (i.e., troubles, trials, tests, tribulation). However, YHVH has prepared a table right in front of our enemies (Psalm 23:5). It’s the table of the Lord and sweet communion with Him. So when you’re in the presence of enemies, look for the table and come to where your head can be anointed with oil and your cup will run over.¹⁷

Don’t allow yourself to become distracted by the taunts, temptations, or enticements of the enemy. Instead set yourself in front of God’s goodness and faithful love — let it follow and pursue you so you can dwell with Him (Psalm 23:6). *Run after Him until He catches you!*

So, if you wonder why some of us place so much emphasis on Hebrew Roots — it’s because we are in the quest to know everything we can about our Lord and Savior who is the object of our affection. Yeshua was not only a Hebrew Theologian and Rabbi; but, he spoke as one having “author”-ity because He is not only the writer/scribe; but, the very fulfillment of The Book.^{18 19}

The Bible is the Greatest Mystery ever written. There is always an element of mystery in love; the thrill of discovery. I want to go deeper²⁰ in love with Him so that the mysteries of His glory may be revealed in the Bride Church to all generations.

Therefore, when we consider the continuity of the generations of Yeshua, we gain a greater appreciation as we look again at Numbers 18:19, ***“I give to you and to your sons and daughters all the holy contributions that the Israelites present to the LORD as a permanent statute. It is a permanent covenant of salt before the LORD for you as well as your offspring.”***

Instead of saying “New Testament,” which suggests God’s will for us — I like to use the Hebrew Name “B’rit Chadashah” for the end-time portion of the Bible. It more closely means “New Covenant” and defines how God’s Word, Will, Ways, and Witness are cut into the fleshly tables of our heart (e.g., 2 Corinthians, chapter 3). Everything in the Old Covenant prophesies of what Messiah would fulfill; everything in the New Covenant commissions us to continue His work — multiplying it through a great company of believers (John 5:20, 14:12).

At GateView, we have a manner of entering into our meetings. I will generally turn to one of the other leaders and say, “Would you like to pray us in?” Most often, Margaret Rosas leads us in this way. She has credibility and functions in the Office of a Prophet. One such time, Margaret included in her prayer, “Lord, establish Your will, way, and wit in us.” My spirit leapt with a word play of “wit”-ness! If we have the wit (aka “mind of Christ”),²¹ we will be His “wit”-nesses.²²

No wonder our Sovereign Lord looks over the whole earth for those whose hearts²³ are completely His! (2 Chronicles 16:9) Acquiring His Word as our thoughts becomes our opportunity to become a

¹⁷ 1 Corinthians 10:16-22. Don’t forsake the Lord (Isaiah 65:11).

¹⁸ Matthew 7:29; Mark 1:22.

¹⁹ Like a Ketubah, which is the Jewish Wedding document that declares what the Groom promises the Bride when she takes His Name. We are “called by His Name”

²⁰ 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; Ephesians 3:14-21; 1 Kings 8:56; Job 11:7; Joshua 23:14.

²¹ 1 Corinthians 2:16; Isaiah 40:13; Jeremiah 23:18; John 15:15; Romans 11:34; 1 Corinthians 12:8.

²² Luke 24:48; Acts 1:8, 22.

²³ Heart (LEBAB) — inner man, mind, will, heart.

prophetic people who are fellow servants sharing the “Testimony²⁴ about Jesus, because the testimony (witness) about Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Revelation 19:10) Witnesses have the revelation of the secret counsel of God (Amos 3:7) as prophetic servants. They are submitted to reveal His purposes and not their own.

There is an obscure Salt Covenant that quite possibly you have never heard about. In fact, if I were to ask the nominal Christian about the mention of salt in the Bible, probably the generalized answer is in reference to Jesus referring to us as “the salt of the whole earth” (Matthew 5:13). But, there is a significantly vital understanding when we open the text to discover the mysteries and secrets that our King desires to engrain in His disciples/talmidim.

The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew, Chapters 5-7) begin with addressing the audience. There was a crowd of people and Yeshua went up on the mountain. But, it clearly says that He began to teach His disciples (Matthew 5:1-2). Most probably, this is a behind-the-scenes training for the disciples to know how to minister to the crowd of people. There are clues to this fact throughout the sermon. For example, He says in verse. 47, “Don’t even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Obviously, Yeshua is teaching His Jewish disciples on how to evangelize with the Father’s love. He is raising up the next generation of His royal priesthood to be sent to the world as they develop “Blessed Attitudes” (Matthew 5:1-12); become Believers who are the Salt and Light²⁵ (Matthew 5:13-16); Fulfill the TORAH/Law/Instructions as He Does (Matthew 5:17-20); Live Without Anger and Judgement (Matthew 5:21-26); Guard Eyes and Hearts (Matthew 5:27-32); Tell the Truth (Matthew 5:33-37); Go the Second Mile (Matthew 5:38-42); Love Your Enemies (Matthew 5:43-48), and so on in Matthew’s Gospel, Chapters 6 and 7.

One Generation of Priests Raises Up the Next Generation

We are equipping our sons and our daughters to make sacrifices. In fact, the rabbis say that if there is no salt, there might as well be no priest. Salt is an integral requirement in each of the five sacrifices outlined in TORAH in Leviticus 2:13, ***“You are to season each of your grain offerings with salt; you must not omit from your grain offering the salt of the covenant with your God. You are to present salt with each of your offerings.”***

Five Levitical Priestly Offerings*

Offering	Basic Typology	References
(1) Burnt	Completely consumed sacrifice of Yeshua Messiah, the Lamb of God.	Leviticus 1
(2) Grain	Yeshua’s perfect person, anointed with oil of the Holy Spirit with frankincense and a sweet smelling savor with the absence of yeast/leaven as picturing separateness from sin.	Leviticus 2
(3) Peace/Fellowship	A restored relationship with Abba Father YHVH as well as with other believers. This depicts a two-fold priestly function — representing God to man and man to God.	Leviticus 3
(4) Sin	Yeshua dying as a satisfactory substitutionary sacrifice for forgiveness of sins. Laying on of hands (imputation) and transferring the passing of sins and guilt.	Leviticus 4
(5) Trespass/Restitution	Messiah’s death atones for the damage or injury caused by sin.	Leviticus 5

* Not exhaustive in scope. But, an introduction to further study and application.

²⁴ “Testimony” in both instances of the verse — Greek, “MATURIA” (witness, testimony, evidence, reputation).

²⁵ Salt and Light — Saltless salt and darkened light are worthless! Salt causes fire to burn hotter and brighter.

L'dor V'dor — “From Generation to Generation”



Biblical text gives us the Hebrew phrase L'dor V'dor, which indicates literal passages from “door to door.” It may help you remember the pronunciation for “dor” because they sound the same. Transferring through time, Abba God’s purposes are disseminated through instructions, training, and God-appointed traditions.

The LORD reigns forever; Zion, your God reigns for all generations. Hallelujah! (Psalm 146:10)

You, LORD, are enthroned forever Your throne endures from generation to generation. (Lamentations 5:19)

*How great are His miracles, and how mighty His wonders!
His kingdom is an eternal kingdom, and His dominion is from generation to generation.*
(Daniel 4:3)

Your faithfulness is for all generations; You established the earth, and it stands firm. (Psalm 119:90)

An Overview of Salt in the Bible

- ▶ In the TaNaKh, there are thirty-five verses that mention salt. A few of these are:
 - ⚡ The Book of Job (notably the oldest book in the Bible) contains the first mention of salt as a condiment. **“Can that which is unsavory be eaten without salt? Or is there any taste in the white of an egg?”** (Job 6:6) The typology is that salt makes more palatable anything distasteful or objectionable.
 - ⚡ The priestly covenant (B’rit HaKehuna) between God and the Kohen (priests) is repeatedly compared to salt and is called **“a covenant of salt forever.”** Descendants of Ahron (Aaronic Priesthood) had priestly duties (i.e., the Korban/offering) that took place until the destruction of the Second Temple. In TORAH, the covenant (Hebrew: b’rit melakh olam) or a statute forever (Hebrew: chukat olam). The priestly covenant is one of the everlasting covenants in the Bible.
 - The promise of an eternal kingdom is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus Christ, our Yeshua HaMashiach who is of King David’s lineage in the New Covenant. King David was in his mother Mary’s ancestry (Matthew 1:6, 17), as well as in the ancestry of His earthly adopted father, Joseph (Luke 3:31). Directly before the account of his heritage through Joseph, Yeshua is baptized into priesthood and God’s voice came from heaven in Luke 3:22, **“You are My beloved Son. I take delight in You!”** This gives Yeshua kingship from Heaven as the King of Kings and highest intermediating priest above all in a lineage of royal priesthood.
 - The Priestly Blessing (Numbers 6:22-27) instructs us to place the Name of God (depicted with the Hebrew Letter “Shin” formation in the hands). This is a resignation to allow God to

be seen in our situations even as it was in the wilderness where the Aaronic Blessing was originally commanded. B'MIDBAR is the Hebrew book title for Numbers and means "In the Desert."

- We are the promised seed of Messiah and the 42nd Generation (e.g., Matthew 1:17; Psalm 22:30-31; Isaiah 53:10). Therefore, we are grafted/adopted into a royal heritage.
- This can be applied to the Ascension of Jesus when "He lifted up His Hands and blessed them (Luke 24:50²⁶)." Thereby, commissioning the next generation of priests. The believers worshipped Jesus as He ascended indicating that He was God because they would have never worshipped a man.²⁷ Jesus fulfilled His priestly responsibility of blessing God's people so that they may fulfill the Great Commission²⁸

⚡ The Salt Sea is also generally known as the Dead Sea.

- Israel has an ample supply of salt because of the Dead/Salt Sea that borders Judah's inheritance on the East (Joshua 15:1-12). Joshua 15:1-Joshua 15:5, "***Now the eastern border was along the Dead Sea*** (literally "Salt Sea" — Yam Melakh) ***to the mouth of the Jordan. The border on the north side was from the bay of the sea at the mouth of the Jordan.***"

⚡ Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt when she looked back at the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah as they were destroyed (Genesis 19:1-29).

- Vs. 12 — Lot is warned and attempts to warn others. His sons-in-law thought it was a joke.
- Vs. 15-17 — "Get up! Take your wife, two daughters, and go outside the city. Run for your lives! Don't look back! Don't stop anywhere on the plain! Run to the mountains, or you will be swept away!"
- Vs. 18-22 — Negotiation for a safe place. Provided with the stipulation of obedience.
- Vs. 26 — Lot's wife looked back and became a pillar of salt.
- Mentioned in the New Covenant
 - › Luke 17:33 — "Remember Lot's Wife!" (By the way, that's the entire verse!)
 - › An entire New Covenant verse dedicated to this reminder as we look TOWARDS the coming of the Kingdom. (See Luke 17:20-36)

²⁶ Luke has been assumed to be a Gentile/Greek. However, Holy Writ was made by Jews who were given God's revelation to the human race. Therefore, the burden of proof is on those who claim Luke is the exception. Luke had more of an intimate knowledge of the 1st Century Second Temple than any other Gospel writer. (See: levitt.com/essays/luke.) However, even if we go with the premise that Luke was not Jewish, he was grafted in just as we are (Romans, Chapter 11). The Christian Church did not replace Israel; but joined her in worshipping the One True God. This is cited as part of the mystery of Yeshua as Messiah. Jesus is not a separate God besides YHVH, the "I AM." Further study can be made of the "I AM's" of Christ in the New Covenant that place Him as the YHVH of the Old Covenant. Yeshua was outwardly a Jew; but, inwardly Jehovah — very man and very God!

²⁷ Exodus 23:13; Deuteronomy 4:15-40; 2 Kings 17:38.

²⁸ Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-18; Luke 24:47-49.

⚡ When Judge Abimelech destroyed the city of Shechem, he is said to have “*sown salt on it,*” probably as a curse on any enemy who would re-inhabit it (Judges 9:45).

⚡ Healing the Waters Heals the Land — 2 Kings 2:19-22²⁹

- Vs. 19 — *Then the men of the city said to Elisha, “Even though our lord can see that the city’s location is good, the water is bad and the land unfruitful.”*
- Vs. 20 — *He replied, “Bring me a new bowl and put salt in it.”*
 - › Why a new bowl? Could it be that too often we place value in forms of godliness³⁰ and containers of God’s glory? Using a new bowl isolates the supernatural typology is to the salt covenant itself and not to the container/bowl. Up until this point, the bowls only purpose was the expectation of what it would be used to hold. Our purpose is to be in covenant with Lord God Jehovah so that He can place within us what will bring healing to the land and restore productivity and fruitfulness.
- Vs. 21 — *Elisha went out to the spring of water, threw salt in it, and said, “This is what the LORD says: ‘I have healed this water. No longer will death or unfruitfulness result from it.’”*
- Vs. 22 — **Therefore, the water remains healthy to this very day according to the word that Elisha spoke.**
 - › Here is another scriptural example of not only generational provision; but, also deliverance and healing so that we can affect the earth.

⚡ Jehovah entered into a Salt Covenant with David that his seed would be on the throne forever. (2 Chronicles 13:5).

⚡ The Book of Ezra (550 BC to 450 BC) associated accepting salt from a person with being in that person’s service. In Ezra 4:14, the adversaries of Ezra and company, in their letter of complaint to Artaxerxes I of Persia explain their loyalty to the King. When translated, it is either stated literally as “*because we have eaten the salt of the palace*” or more figuratively as “*because we have maintenance from the king*”.

- Ezra 4:14, Since we have taken (MELAKH — salt) “*an oath of loyalty*” to the king, and it is not right for us to witness his dishonor, we have sent to inform the king.
 - › Building/Rebuilding the Kingdom Requires Loyalty

RELATED THOUGHTS

- ▶ Some people aren’t loyal to you. They are loyal to their need of you. Once their needs change, so does their loyalty.
- ▶ Human loyalty floats on the waves of emotionalism.
- ▶ If we possess loyalty, we will not stoop to gossip or belittle others in leadership or subordinates.
— Rick Joyner

²⁹ Earlier in the chapter, Elisha pursues Elijah for a prophetic heritage as a generational provision.

³⁰ In 2 Timothy 3:5, the Apostol Paul warns young Pastor Timothy to turn away from forms of godliness (godlikeness). We should never counterfeit the true things He establishes in covenant and give credit, worthiness, or glorify the outward appearance of d’s assigned inward workings.

- Translated in various versions as: are under obligation (NIV); in the service (NAS); we have maintenance (KJV); we are paid (GWT); we eat the salt of the palace (JPS TaNaKh)
 - English Standard Version — Now because we eat the salt of the palace and it is not fitting for us to witness the king’s dishonor, therefore we send and inform the king.
 - Jubilee Bible 2000 — Now because we are salted with the salt of the palace, and it is not just unto us to see the king's dishonor; therefore, we have sent to make this known unto the king.
 - Douay-Rheims Bible — But we remembering the salt that we have eaten in the palace, and because we count it a crime to see the king wronged, have therefore sent and certified the king.
- › Priestly Provision for Those Rebuilding God’s House
 - › Opposition to Rebuilding the Temple (worship)
 - › Opposition to Rebuilding the City (evangelism; outreach)
- ⚡ Ezra 6:9-10, *“Whatever is needed—young bulls, rams, and lambs for burnt offerings to the God of heaven, or wheat, salt, wine, and oil, as requested by the priests in Jerusalem--let it be given to them every day without fail, so that they can offer sacrifices of pleasing aroma to the God of heaven and pray for the life of the king and his sons.”*

- Once again, we see a generational provision. This time it is for the king and his sons (children) so that they can maintain *“without fail”* the sacrifices of their service.

▶ In the B’rit Chadashah (New Covenant), six verses mention salt. Some of these are:

- ⚡ In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus referred to his followers as the “salt of the earth” in Matthew 5:13.
- ⚡ In Luke 14:34-35, Jesus concludes a series of parables on the cost of following him with the parable of spent salt. It seems that those who follow him are to be like the salt. In this parable, it is good to be used as salt and bad to become useless salt. This illustration ties in with the two preceding ones (Luke 14:28-33) of counting the cost: the disciples must prepare, by counting the cost — to be salty for as long as they are needed.
- ⚡ The Apostle Paul also encouraged Christians to “let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt” (Colossians 4:6).

INTERESTING FACT . . . In the Sea of Humanity, what percentage (%) of salt is in human bodies? Assuming the question pertains to table salt (sodium chloride), a human body contains approximately 0.15 percent by weight chlorine and 0.15 percent by weight sodium. This means that a 70-kilogram human (150 pounds) will contain 0.095 kilograms, or 95 grams, of each of the elements in table salt. The constituents of common table salt exist as separate ions in the human body, and if we could remove them and reconstitute them into table salt, they would make up about 8 tablespoons of salt for a 150-pound person.

Salt is God's Divine Enablement (Grace) for Generations and Among Ourselves

- ▶ Like the sacrifices, we must be salted with salt — subduing corrupt affections by the mortifying power of the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ 2 Chronicles 13:5³¹ — Don't you know that the LORD God of Israel gave the kingship over Israel to David and his descendants forever by a covenant of salt?
 - ⚡ Kingdom loyalty and faithfulness from God to see His Kingdom Assignment through to completion.
 - ⚡ See: Leviticus 2:13; Numbers 18:19; 2 Samuel 7:13; 1 Kings 2:24; Ezekiel 43:24, etc.
- ▶ Mark 9:49-50³² — ***“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if the salt should lose its flavor, how can you make it salty? Have salt among yourselves and be at peace with one another.”***
 - ⚡ Kingdom loyalty and faithfulness are attributes of God's Kingdom that enables each to fulfill our individual — yet corporate — Kingdom Assignments. Our level of saltiness is measured by the grace we mete out to others.
 - ⚡ When salt is known to represent value, giving financially to support others for the furtherance of God's Kingdom takes on a covenantal importance. This brings to light the most accurate biblical definition of grace as *“God's unmerited divine enablement.”* Giving financial provision is therefore an act of sharing salt as an offering so that peace (SHALOM) can enable others to have *“nothing missing, nothing broken, and nothing out of place.”*
- ▶ Covenantal observance of the commandments of God are generational. When God's TORAH is observed, it defends the Law of Generations and can reverse verdicts by the accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12:10; 1 Peter 5:8).
 - ⚡ (Exodus 34:6-7). ***“Then the LORD passed in front of him and proclaimed: Yahweh — Yahweh is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in faithful love and truth, maintaining faithful love to a thousand generations, forgiving wrongdoing, rebellion, and sin. But He will not leave the guilty unpunished, bringing the consequences of the fathers' wrongdoing on the children and grandchildren to the third and fourth generation.”***³³

³¹ Messianic Prophecy and Provision — Luke 1:32-33

³² See: Matthew 5:13; Luke 14:34.

³³ Iniquity is transferred to the Third- and Fourth-Generations when YHVH is not made a priority and idols are worshipped. He is jealous OR zealous to be the focus of our devotion not for His own self-gratification; but, because He loves us (Exodus 20:5; Deuteronomy 5:9-10). Generational iniquity is the premise of the question Jesus' disciples asked in John 9:2, ***“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”*** Yeshua answers that the man's blindness is not a generational curse, but so there may be an opportunity for a miraculous work as a sign to reveal who He is as Messiah (John 9:3-5) — the light of the world that needs to be manifested and illuminated in the world before darkness/night comes and miraculous work and signs will not be manifested.

Salt at the Last Supper

Salt is a necessary element of the family table in Jewish thought. Just as I mentioned early, if there is no salt, there might as well not be a priest. No salt = no sacrifice = no need of priestly service. Such is the same for the ***“Feasts of the Lord”*** (e.g., Passover) and His altar. In fact, the sages say that if there is no salt on the table, there is no provision for the family table — the first primary altar to be experienced.

Could not the understanding that family dinner time and gathering around the family table strengthen the covenantal bond of family members? In my personal life, my greatest memories center around the generations gathering around fellowship, food, and fun. This is where our family stories were passed down and rehearsed. Now I can see that it transmitted family values, and so forth.



- ▶ In Leonardo DaVinci’s painting, ***“The Last Supper,”*** we find well-researched detailed symbolism. The famous painter obviously knew some things about the Salt Covenant. Have you noticed there is salt on the table?

- ▶ Judas Iscariot is identified in ***“The Last Supper”*** painting by the bag of salt in one hand, while the other hand reaches toward the silver bowl, but the salt is spilled in front of his arm.... symbolizing the broken covenant between Jesus and him.



- ▶ Due to salt’s antiseptic and savory qualities, salt became the symbol of hospitality, friendship, durability, fidelity. ***“To eat bread and salt together”*** is, in the East, an expression for a league of mutual amity (Russell, Aleppo, i. 232).
- ▶ It is commonly believed that in Jesus’ time, Roman soldiers were at certain times paid with salt. Those soldiers who did their job well, were ***“worth their salt.”*** During the late Roman Empire and throughout the Middle Ages salt was a precious commodity carried along the salt roads into the heartland of the Germanic tribes. Caravans consisting of as many as forty thousand camels traversed four hundred miles of the Sahara bearing salt to inland markets in the Sahel, sometimes trading salt for slaves: Timbuktu was a huge salt and slave market.
- ▶ Roman soldiers guarded Salt Roads (Via Salaria) that led to Rome. Some even note that the word ***“soldier”*** comes from the Latin sal dare (to give salt).
- ▶ The word ***“salary”*** is derived from the Latin word salarium, possibly referring to money given to soldiers so they could buy salt. Therefore, they often carried pouches of salt, and when they made a covenant they would pour salt from their pouches into one container and shake it up. Then who could tell one man’s salt from the other?

- ▶ When the Arabs make a covenant together, they put salt on the blade of a sword, and every one puts a little into his mouth. This constitutes them blood relations, and they remain faithful to each other even when in danger of life (Ritter, Erd. 14:960). Hence the expression “*a covenant of salt,*” which also occurs in Numbers 18:19, and 2 Chronicles 13:5 — denoting an indissoluble alliance — an everlasting covenant.

Summary of Salt's Importance

Salt is a Life Necessity

- ▶ Seasoning
- ▶ Preservative
- ▶ Disinfectant
 - ⚡ Skin Exfoliation
 - ⚡ Wound Treatment

Salt Signifies a Life Covenant

- ▶ Purity, Healing, Protection
- ▶ Permanence, Durability, Endurance
- ▶ Loyalty, Fidelity, Faithfulness, Unity
- ▶ Usefulness and Value

Salt Covenant Ceremony

- ▶ Act of sanctification. The place becomes a sanctuary and is set apart for covenant. Covenant cuts through time and space and separates the past from the present as you progress into the future.
 - ⚡ Designating a place, field, church property, house, and so on for God's purposes.
 - ⚡ For individuals, couples (wedding), families, groups, churches, and so forth who are coming into unity and agreement upon their identity and purpose.
 - ⚡ Healing of water and the land. Also, the human condition of wholeness spirit, soul, and body.
 - ⚡ Sanctification unto God reverses the curses of the enemy. It brings deliverance and serves to nullify the adversary's advancement and productivity to bring disunity. “*A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy, I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance.*” (John 10:10)
- ▶ Exchange salt from individual pouches. If you do not have a salt pouch/bag, you can sprinkle salt on a hand of each entering into the Salt Covenant and “*shake on it.*”
- ▶ After sharing salt from a pouch or hands:
 - ⚡ Can your salt be separated from those with whom you are in covenant?
 - ⚡ Can you isolate your individual identity (salt) from theirs?
 - ⚡ Can salted sacrificial living in covenant with the King of Kings be separated from Him?

Remember that the only way for salt to regain its saltiness is for salt to be added to it again. Let's be there for each other and grace each other with the salt of His Kingdom as Priests from generation to generation.