

Call of Grace Ministries

Come unto Me. . . I will give you rest

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“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.”
Matthew 5:13 (NKJV)

“You are the salt of the earth.” Please don’t miss the intent of the little, but mighty, verb, are, in Christ’s metaphor. If you are a Christian, your being and purpose for God’s glory (Matt 5:16) are wrapped up in this comparison of Christ’s disciple to the purposes salt fulfilled in the physical world of Jesus’ day.

Seasoning food may be the first thing that comes to mind today. However, in Jesus’ day, the primary uses for salt had to do with preservation and healing. Salt was used to preserve food. Used for this purpose, salt produced an environment where bacteria were less likely to grow, thereby preventing food from spoiling. For medicinal purposes, salt was used topically as well as internally as a laxative. In either case the purpose was to prevent or purge corruption from the body to promote healing.

So how does this translate to the Believer’s being and purpose? As disciples of Jesus, we are to work to prevent moral decay and corruption within individuals, families, and our societies. We do this by standing for the truth of God’s word even as we stand in His truth, acting as stewards to promote God’s design and His intent for each category of people mentioned above. Such a responsibility demands that we share the truth of the Gospel with individuals, for it is only in Christ that life and purpose are truly found. It also requires us to speak into our families and our society in a way that brings glory to the Lord because we have withstood any confrontation (always with grace) to make His truths and principles known!

The rest of the verse above? “Becomes/is defiled” may provide a better understanding for us today than “loses its flavor”. Much, if not all the salt in Jesus’ day contained impurities, causing the salt to be or to become useless for either preservation or as an aid to promote healing. Such salt had lost its purpose and would be thrown out, possibly on a path to keep the weeds down.

With all this in mind, let me paraphrase the latter part of this verse as a caution for all of us:

When the church, or a Christian, rebels against Godly change, ceases to express the change Christ has made, begins to embrace sin, retreats from the battle against sin and corruption in our society, or withdraws to only minister to themselves, their world is not salted and they will be trampled in the path of a world racing toward its destruction and final judgment. Such a Christian, such a church, has lost their purpose for they have ceased to glorify their Father in Heaven!

It is our prayer that all of Christ’s disciples will embrace Jesus’ viewpoint regarding our being and purpose and work to salt their world to the glory of our Father in heaven!

A reminder – Election Day is Tuesday, November 8th.

Many of you may have already exercised this right. If you have not, please vote in this crucial mid-term! Daniel Webster is credited with saying, “Bad politicians are sent to Washington by good people who don’t vote”. Your vote could be the difference!

The Lord has given us a great gift in this country; He has given us the right to speak into the social and moral fabric of our society by choosing our leaders. Since we have been given this privilege, we should exercise our right to vote. However, with that privilege comes an obligation to vote for leaders that will truly seek the best way of life for the people of our nation. As a Christian, I know this means that, first and foremost, I need to vote for candidates who will legislate and vote in accordance with the Lord’s truth without compromise.

We see so many things in the news today that are either being legislated or promoted as a “right” or as “best” for both individuals and our society. Gender fluidity, including drugs and re-assignment surgery for our youth, abortion, homosexuality, the restriction/removal of parental authority and oversight, etc. Each of the aforementioned items is a denial of God’s Sovereignty and His design/constructs for individuals, families, and societies. Therefore, each one is sinful and destructive and those who represent us *must* stand against such things for us to have a nation “under God”, which is truly best for all Americans!

Finding such people is not easy. This must be done by evaluating the example of both the candidate and, more importantly, the party with which they stand. A party platform that approves of what the Lord calls evil will promote it. And people who appear or claim to be godly, yet align themselves with a party that approves and promotes evil cannot be trusted to vote for what is best for our nation and its people. Scripture says that we are to abstain from every form (even the appearance) of evil (1 Thess. 5:22). Politicians who identify with those who embrace what God says is wrong are giving tacit approval to changes in our social mores that are destroying our society because they are a denial of the Lord’s design and/or structure for true community!

If we vote God’s values, will it change the direction of our nation? Only the Lord knows, for this is truly a surface-level change; what is needed is the heart change in individuals that only Jesus can provide. What I do believe is that such an inclination toward His Will and His Ways will make for a safer, more prosperous nation for future generations, including our children and grandchildren.

Cindy and I have been blessed to serve with various local missions this month. In addition, the Lord is continuing to provide opportunities to fill the pulpit in various churches. Like last year, we will start ringing the bell for the Salvation Army earlier than normal this year, as they have additional need this year. As well, Mardi Gras 2023 is just around the corner; planning has begun. Men, are you called to be a part of this mission? If so, contact me. In all of this, we thank the Lord for His guidance and the privilege of serving Him however, wherever, and whenever we can!

We also request your prayers for the following:

- Please pray for true, godly leaders as a result of the upcoming election.
- Pray for our nation's leaders at every level.
- Please pray for the enemies of our nation both within and without. Jesus desires to change their hearts also.
- We ask that you pray for the ongoing ministry of Call of Grace

Is there something we can pray for you? If so please let us know.

Thank you for your prayers and support. Everything the Lord calls us to do is done with your help and we are thankful to the Lord for your service to Him with us. If He calls you to go on mission with us, wherever we go, or to help support a mission or any part of our ministry, please let us know. Likewise, if you or your church believe we could be of service to you as regards your evangelistic efforts, please contact us.

Until Jesus comes,

Dennis & Cindy

~Cindy's Bottom Line~

As followers of Christ, we are to stand firm in truth and represent the Lord well.

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.”

Proverbs 14:34 (NASB95)

Call of Grace Ministries is a 501(c)3 ministry and your contributions are tax deductible. All donations to Call of Grace are used for ministry expenses. We go as God provides and your support of this ministry is a blessing to us as we move forward in the Lord's call.