

The Influence of Those
Ruled By God



SALT
&
LIGHT

Matthew 5:13-16

The Godly Are Salt & Light

Matthew 5:13-16 (NKJV)

13 **¶** 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.

The Godly Are Salt & Light

Matthew 5:13-16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

The Godly Are Salt & Light

Matthew 5:13-16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Let your light so
shine before men, that
they may see your
good works and glorify
your Father in heaven.

The Godly Are Salt & Light

- **We live in a wicked and dark world - (Gen 6:5; Phil 2:15)**
- **Metaphors describing the influence upon the world of the true kingdom citizen -**

You Are ♦ ♦ ♦

the salt of the earth; . . . the light of the world . . .

■ **ONLY IF we possess the attitudes and behavior of the genuine kingdom citizen. (vs. 5:3-12)**

- ◆ ONLY then can we be a positive influence in the world and bring glory to God.
- ◆ We can be a positive influence in this world ONLY if we are very different from the world!

You Are The Salt of the Earth ♦ ♦ ♦

Matthew 5:13 (NKJV)

"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.

You Are The Salt of the Earth ♦ ♦ ♦

Mark 9:49-50 (NKJV)

⁴⁹ "For everyone will be seasoned with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt. ⁵⁰ Salt is good, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another."

You Are The Salt of the Earth ♦ ♦ ♦

Luke 14:34-35 (NKJV)

³⁴ "Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned?

³⁵ It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

Hebrews Used Salt In A Variety Of Ways

- Flavoring foods
- Preserving fish
- Drain blood from meats
- Infants were rubbed with salt -
- Treatment for tooth decay and tooth aches
- Ingredient in the sacred anointing oil
- Used in sacrifices- (Num. 18:19)
- Absolutely necessary for life

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

The Effect of Pure Salt

Salt Seasons

- ◆ Job said, “Can flavorless food be eaten without salt? Or is there any taste in the white of an egg?” (Job 6:6)
- ◆ The antediluvian world lost its savor - (Gen. 6:5)
- ◆ Our words should be with salt, i.e. wholesome and palatable - (Col. 4:6)

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

The Effect of Pure Salt

Salt Preserves

- ◆ There was not enough salty saints to save the antediluvian world - (Gen. 6:7-13)
- ◆ Abraham pleading with the Lord regarding Sodom - (Gen 18:20-32)
- ◆ Jerusalem "If you can find a man . . . I will pardon her" - (Jer. 5:1)

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

The Effect of Pure Salt

Salt Heals

- ◆ Salt has antiseptic and healing properties to it.
- ◆ In Bible times when little babies were born, they would give the baby a saline bath to hold down infection – (Ezekiel 16:4)
- ◆ We live in a sick world infected by sin – are we salty enough to help it?

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

The Effect of Pure Salt

Salt Irritates

- ◆ Salt burns in a wound!
- ◆ The truth of God's Word, when rubbed into this diseased world, will sting - (Mat. 5:10-12; Luke 6:22; John 15:20; 2 Tim 3:12)
- ◆ Many prefer a non-irritating brand of the Gospel - (2 Tim. 4:3.4)

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

The Effect of Pure Salt

Salt Penetrates

- ◆ In order for salt to season, preserve, heal or irritate – it must come into contact with that which it is intended to affect.
- ◆ We must get the salt to the source, where it can penetrate, activate, and change society – (John 17:13-18; 1 Thes 1:8)

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

The Effect of Pure Salt

Salt Causes Thirst

- ◆ You can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink - - - but you can give it salt.
- ◆ Consistent godly influence is very powerful - (1 Pet. 3:1; 1 Cor. 9:19-22)
- ◆ The sermon you preach is not nearly as effective as the sermon you live!

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

Polluted Salt . . .

Is useless

- ◆ “Salt seasons and preserves beef, NOT because it is like beef, but because it is very much unlike it.”
- Chesterton
- ◆ Our positive influence is ONLY found in our holy distinctiveness
- (Luke 14:34; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; James 4:4)

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

Polluted Salt . . .

Is harmful

- ◆ Brings dishonor and and a reproach upon God and His people - (Rom 2:24; 1 Tim 5:14; 6:1)
- ◆ Inconsistency in the lives of those who profess to be followers of Christ has indeed caused many to be offended! - (Mat. 18:7; Titus 2:1-8)

You Are The Salt of the Earth . . .

Polluted Salt . . .

Is Thrown Out

- ◆ It is to be discarded – trampled under the feet of men – (Luke 14:35; Mat 7:23; 25:41)
- ◆ The REAL possibility of one losing their salvation & being lost - (John 15:1-10; Rom. 11:17-22; Heb. 10:24-39)

You Are The Light of the World . . .

Let Your Light So Shine

Matthew 5:14-16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

You Are The Light of the World . . .

Let Your Light So Shine

A City On A Hill

- ◆ Those with the character of Christ and follow Him will radiate His light – (John 8:12; Prov 4:18; Eph 5:8-10)
- ◆ Jesus expects His followers to be seen by the world - (e.g., Jn 13:35; 17:21; *[but Matt. 6:2, 16–18; 23:1–5]*)
- ◆ Our Christianity should be evident.

You Are The Light of the World . . .

Let Your Light So Shine

Don't Hide Your Light

- ◆ Must be actively walking in the light - (1 John 1:5,6)
- ◆ Not partaking with those who walk in darkness - (Eph 5:7)
- ◆ Walking as children of light - (Eph 5:8)
- ◆ Learning what is acceptable to the Lord - (Eph 5:10)
- ◆ Exposing works of darkness - (Eph 5:11)
- ◆ Walking wisely - (Eph 5:15)

You Are The Light of the World . . .

Let Your Light So Shine

Glorify Your Father

- ◆ In Our Morality!
- ◆ In Our Language!
- ◆ In Our Clothing!
- ◆ In Our Habits!
- ◆ In Our Entertainment!
- ◆ In Our Attitude!
- ◆ In Our Spirituality!

The Godly Are Salt & Light

**This is not a time to be passive
in our faithfulness to the Lord!**

We Must Provide Godly Influence For -

- ◆ Our Nations sake -
- ◆ Our communities sake
- ◆ Our sake
- ◆ Our children's sake . . .
- ◆ For Our Brethren's Sake -
- ◆ Mostly - For the Lord's sake!



The Godly Are Salt & Light

**Are You A Child
of God?**

**If So - Are You
Providing The
Positive
Influence You
Should?**

**Are You
Glorifying God?**



The Godly Are Salt & Light

What is the
message of
your life?

MATTHEW 5:13-20



A glass bottle of salt stands on a dark, rocky shore. In the background, a bright sun sets over the ocean, creating a vibrant orange and yellow sky with rays of light. The sun's reflection is visible on the water's surface.

MATTHEW 5:13-20

SALT & LIGHT

The Sermon On The Mount

The Influence of the One Ruled By God . . .

Charts by Don McClain

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Philippians 2:12-18 (NKJV)

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,



Philippians 2:12-18 (NKJV)

¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

¹⁷ Yes, and if I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

¹⁸ For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

