

Remember Who You Are - You Are Salt And Light

Matthew 5:13-16

Remember Who You Are

- ▶ NT Christians had an impact on their world. Acts 2:46-47; 5:14, 28, 42; 8:4; 17:6; 28:22.

You Are The Salt Of The Earth Matthew 5:13

Salt Flavors Food. (*Christians flavor the world with goodness.*)

- ▶ **Must retain your basic character. Matthew 5:3-12**
 - By putting sin to death. Ephesians 4:20-32; Colossians 3:5-10
 - By growing in attributes of godliness. Philippians 4:8; 2 Peter 1:5-9; 2 Corinthians 10:5
 - By preaching the gospel. 2 Corinthians 2:12-17 (Paul and companions)
 - By using speech that fits the situation. Colossians 4:5-6.
- ▶ **Do Not Lose Your Flavor. Matthew 5:13**

You Are The Salt Of The Earth Matthew 5:13

Salt Preserves against Rottenness.

(Christians who live by faith are guards against spread of sin.)

- ▶ When faithful men and women do nothing, not only do they cease to be faithful, they hasten the advancement of sin. cf. Jude 3-4.
- ▶ Be the Christian who "*stands in the gap*" to preserve the influence of truth and to avoid the day of wrath!
 - In Ezekiel's day, Ezekiel 22:23-31. (Moses, Psalms 106:23)

You Are The Salt Of The Earth Matthew 5:13

Salt Preserves against Rottenness.

- ▶ Be the *father/mother* who sets the pattern of reverent obedience and unwavering faith.
- ▶ Be the *worker* who shows good fidelity in all your labor.
- ▶ Be the *saint* who guards his/her holiness against sins of flesh.
- ▶ Be the *elder/deacon/preacher/teacher/member* whose faithful zeal defines you and this congregation. Ephesians 4:16

You Are The Salt Of The Earth Matthew 5:13

Salt Creates Thirst. (Christians create interest in Christ by their faith.)

- ▶ Christians live so as to create interest in, desire for, greater knowledge about, and participation in the salvation and life in Jesus. 1 Peter 2:11-12; 3:15-16
- ▶ Are people influenced by righteousness and truth by seeing you and your life? 1 Timothy 4:12.
Or ... are you being influenced by them? 1 Corinthians 15:33-34

You Are The Light Of The World Matthew 5:14-16

▶ Your Life must be a **Shining Light**

Matthew 5:3-10. (Give direction to those in the darkness of sin and death.)

- Your life (light) must be **obvious**. Matthew 5:14
- Your life (light) must **function**. Matthew 5:15
- Your life (light) must have **purpose**. Matthew 5:16; cf. Philippians 2:14-16

7

You Are The Light Of The World Matthew 5:14-16

▶ **Walk in the Light of Truth**

John 8:12; 12:36

- Practice the truth, confess sin and press forward. 1 John 1:6-9
- Live to please the Lord. Ephesians 5:8-14
 - Bear the fruit of the Spirit and be accepted by God. 5:9-10
 - Have no fellowship with the works of darkness – expose them with the light of truth. 5:11-13
 - Be spiritually alert, not apathetic / indifferent. 5:14

8

You Are The Salt Of The Earth, You Are The Light Of The World Matthew 5:14-16

Remember who you are.

- ▶ Don't let your **salt**(life) lose its effectiveness to influence for good.
- ▶ Don't let your **light**(life) be hidden through the shame and fear of sin.
- ▶ Let your light shine and your salt be tasted!

9