

The Beatitudes Message Series: "Salt & Light"

Sunday, March 3, 2024 @ 10:30AM | Worship Center

Matthew 5:13-16: "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty *again*? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does *anyone* light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."



Whoever lives according to the Beatitudes is going to function in the world as salt and light. Christian character, consciously or unconsciously, affects other people for better or worse.

"The most obvious general characteristic of salt is that it is essentially different from the medium into which it is put. Its power lies precisely in this difference. So it is, says Jesus, with His disciples. Their power in the world lies in their difference from it." – Barclay

Salt of the earth...

"Jesus, looking out over the multitudes of His day, saw the corruption, the disintegration of life at every point, its breakup, its spoliation; and, because of His love of the multitudes, He knew the thing that they needed most was salt in order that the corruption should be arrested. He saw them also wrapped in gloom, sitting in darkness, groping amid mists and fogs. He knew that they needed, above everything else...light." – G. Campbell Morgan

- **Jesus is calling us to be the salt to a tasteless world. (13)**

Light of the world...

- **Jesus is calling us to be light to a dark world. (14)**
- **Our purpose on this side of heaven is to glorify God. (16)**

"Flight into the invisible is a denial of the call. A community of Jesus which seeks to hide itself has ceased to follow him." – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (The Cost of Discipleship)

"It is the Christian's duty to take the stand which the weaker brother will support, to give the lead which those with less courage will follow. The world needs its guiding lights; there are people waiting and longing for a lead to take the stand and to do the thing which they do not dare to take and to do by themselves." – Barclay

"Salt and light balance each other. Salt is hidden: it works secretly and slowly. Light is seen: it works openly and quickly. The influence of Christian character is quiet and penetrating. The Influence of Christian conduct is obvious and attracting. The two go together and reinforce each other." – Dr. Warren Wiersbe

This is the kind of Salt and Light God wants His kingdom people to be.