

You Are The Salt Of The Earth

(Lesson Two)

- Introduction:
1. Jesus likened His disciples to salt (Matthew 5:13).
 2. This passage can be examined in three points:
 - a. A Description to Appreciate.
 - b. A Danger to Avoid.
 - c. A Destiny to Abhor.

I. A Description To Appreciate — You Are The Salt Of The Earth

- A. Salt must come in contact with the substance to be preserved or flavored.
 1. Tact is good, but contact is better.
 2. (Matthew 10:19; Colossians 4:6; 1 Peter 3:15; Isaiah 50:4).
- B. Salt preserves and prevents.
 1. (Genesis 19:23-33; Proverbs 14:34; Matthew 24:32).
- C. Salt purifies.
 1. Salt can bring healing by removing impurities.
 2. (1 Timothy 4:12; James 4:7-8).
- D. Salt creates thirst.
 1. Many people are Christians today because they were inspired by what they saw in the lives of Christians.
 2. Live so that others would want what you have.
- E. Salt speaks for itself and is easily identifiable.
 1. We shouldn't have to wear a sign saying, "I'm a Christian."
 2. (Acts 4:13; John 13:34-35).
- F. Salt does not draw attention to itself, but to another object.
 1. (Matthew 5:16).
- G. The presence of salt makes a difference.
 1. Do we make a difference in the local church, the home, or our community?

II. A Danger To Avoid — Salt Can Lose It Flavor

- A. A branch can become fruitless (John 15:1-7), a sheep can stray (Luke 15:1-7), a son can depart (Luke 15:11-32), and salt can lose it's flavor.
- B. (Galatians 5:4; 2 Peter 2:20-22).

III. A Destiny To Abhor — Being Good For Nothing, And Cast Away

- A. Some Christians can be "good for nothing."
- B. Some Christians are only in the way taking up space (John 15:1-7).

- Conclusion:
- A. God demands that we exert our influence while we are here on earth.
 - B. By examining the metaphor Jesus used, may we become more aware of how we are to use our influence for good.