

"YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH"

(Matthew 5:1 – 13)

INTRODUCTION - (v13) **"You are the salt of the earth;** but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? I is then good for nothing, but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men"

1. A DESCRIPTION TO APPRECIATE: "YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH"

1) SALT IS NEEDED

You and I, being "salt," are needed in the world and in the congregation.
(1 Corinthians 12:20 – 21) "cannot say ... I have no need of you"

2) SALT WORKS AT THE EXPENSE OF ITSELF

(2 Corinthians 12:15) "And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls"

3) SALT MUST BE IN CONTACT WITH SOMETHING TO BE EFFECTIVE

Salt has to get out of the shaker to have influence.
(John 17:15) "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world ... "

4) SALT PRESERVES AND PREVENTS

(Genesis 19:23 – 33) if 10 righteous could be found ...
(Proverbs 14:34) "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people"

5) SALT CREATES THIRST

Live your Christian life so that others want what you have.

6) SALT ADDS FLAVOR

(Colossians 4:6) "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt ... "
(Job 6:6) "Can flavorless food be eaten without salt? Or is there any taste in the white of an egg?"
Does your presence make a difference in the assembly, at home, at work?

2. A DANGER TO AVOID: "BUT IF THE SALT LOSES IT FLAVOR"

It happens when we do not put into practice the "beatitudes" of (v3-12), and
(2 Timothy 4:10) "having loved this present world" instead of being "the salt of the earth," and losing the description of being "salt."

3. A DESTINY TO ABHOR: "IT IS THEN GOOD FOR NOTHING"

1) Flavorless salt was: "thrown out and trampled underfoot by men"

2) Jesus adds other illustrations: (Matthew 25:30, v41, v46) (John 15:1-6)

CLOSE: have you retained the qualities of "salt" and "light"?