EVERY PERSON HAS INFLUENCE

(Matthew 5:13-16)

INTRODUCTION

"Influence" - the act or power of producing an effect without apparent exertion of force; to sway.

We influence - (Matt. 5:13-16) "You are the salt of the earth ... light of the world" (Matt. 13:33) "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven" (2 Corinthians 3:2-3) "You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly you are an epistle of Christ ... "

1. NOTE 2 KINDS OF INFLUENCE

- 1) Bad: (1 Kings 11:4) "his wives turned his heart after other gods"
 (2 Chronicles 28:22-23) "Because the gods of the kings of Syria ... "
 (John 12:42-43) "but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him ... "
 (Ecclesiastes 9:18) "... but one sinner destroys much good"
- 2) Good: (Esther 4:14) "Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this" Paul's preaching (Acts 28:30-31; Philp. 4:22)
- 2. YOU HAVE INFLUENCE: "You will be a blot or a blessing; but not a blank"
 - 1) You are born with influence: a baby will influence others.

Moses' birth influenced parents, sister, Pharaoh's daughter. Jesus' birth influenced parents, shepherds, wise men, Herod.

2) You do not lose your influence: you live with it.

You may change your influence from good to bad, and bad to good.

(Romans 14:7) "For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself" (Hosea 4:8-9) "... they set their heart on their iniquity. And it shall be: like people, like priest ... "

(Joshua 14:8) Caleb said, "Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I wholly followed the Lord my God"

3) After death: (Hebrews 11:4) "By faith Abel offered ... being dead still speaks"

3. MAINTAIN AN EXCELLENT INFLUENCE

(John 13:34-35) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another"