



Sermon on the Mount

Salt & Light

## Salt & Light

Welcome to Jesus Time where we spend time with Jesus in His time and culture.

Continuing with our Christ's Sermon upon the Mount:

✝ You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. Matthew 5:13 NIV

In Jesus Time salt was not as refined as it is today and when it became damp in a pouch it could actually lose all of its sodium thusly becoming useless. Salt is still used present day as each a food preservative & additionally as a seasoning which zestily enhances a food source natural flavor. This is metaphorical of each of us as we come to Christ when GOD preserves and enhances us. Salt today as it was in ancient times is highly valued just as the Lord highly values each of us. Also take note here that Jesus does warn us that we can become bland & stubbornly of no use for Him. But did you know Jesus was actually quoting an Old Testament requirement for Israel here:

✝ Whatever is set aside from the holy offerings the Israelites present to the LORD I give to you and your sons and daughters (Levite) as your perpetual share. It is an everlasting covenant of salt before the LORD for both you and your offspring." Numbers 18:19 NIV

The context of the content from Numbers chapter 18 is the official duties and the Levite's due share of the produce from the Land of Israel as pertaining to the sons of Aaron- the Priests of the Lord.

What we miss here is salt in Old Testament times was considered to be symbolic of being incorruptible. As such salt was added to all Sacrifices not just to enhance flavor but representative of purity of motive. In contrast when someone was found to be within immoral activity the Rabbis of Jerusalem often referred to them as being the "Salt of Sodom" from the Genesis' account of Sodom and Gomorrah.

So, those Believing in Jesus were now entrusted and tasked by Him at preserving & enhancing by example each His physical truth unto those in need or pain and of course offering Christ's Spiritual truth before all.

Continuing

✝ You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16 NIV

Again this one is pretty obvious; Jesus is expecting those who Believe in Him to literally be Spiritual light unto those living within a world of Sinful darkness.

✝ I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth. Isaiah 49:6b NIV

Within Isaiah chapter 49 is Heavenly Father lamenting Israel's first diaspora of destruction. However GOD gives hope with a future prophecy that Israel will yet bring Salvation-Jesus, & He will become light for the entire world.

As Christians we are to present the Light of Life Jesus our Christ before all who live in Spiritual darkness.