## Salt and Light of the Earth Matthew 5:13-16

- 5:13 "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 by men. 14 "You are the light of the
- 14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 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. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

## Salt and Light of the Earth Matthew 5:13-16

## A. We Called to be SALT of the world

### Salt commonly used for:

- > to season food
- > to preserve food

# 1. As salt, the Christians should retain their potency while in the world.

5:13 . . . 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 by men.

## CHRISTIAN CHRIST IAN "IAN" = "I Am Nothing."

The worldly Christian is in the world and the godly Christian is in the church

- Both are of no use

 The worldly Christian must be in the church but the godly Christian in the world.

 Salt must be applied so that it serves its purpose.

 The Christians in the church is like the salt in the salt shaker.

# 2. As salt, the Christians should retain their principles while in the world

 Salt must not be allowed to compromise with water or other chemical

 The Christians cannot compromise their principles and conform to the world

## B. We Called to be LIGHT of the World

5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 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

### 1. Positively illuminating a sindarkened world

### Two kinds of darkness.

a. Hopelessness and despair. b. Evil.

# 2. Negatively warning against a <u>life that does not lead others</u> to glorify the Father.

The life of a Christian must be visible but not showy
When tempted to show, hide;
When tempted to hide, show.

## Motive of a visible life is God glorifying not self-promoting.

Witnessing includes not just words but deeds as well.

"There can be no such thing as secret discipleship, for either the secrecy destroys the discipleship, or the discipleship destroys the secrecy." (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

#### **Three Things Attract People to Christ**

#### 1. Authenticity in a Christian

Christians are to be good news before they share the good news.

### 2. Compassion expressed by the Christian

The non-Christians don't care how much we know until they know how much we care.

3. Sacrifice of a Christian

## Ultimate Reason for being Salt and Light

In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (5:16)

#### Johann Sebastian Bach

S.D.G. -"Soli Deo Gloria"

"To God only be the glory"

## We can't separate message from lifestyle.

### Review:

- A. We are called to be SALT of the earth
  - 1. As salt, the Christians retain their potency while in the world.
  - 2. As salt, the Christians retain their principles while in the world

### B. We Called to be LIGHT of the World

- 1. Positively illuminating a sindarkened world
- 2. Negatively warning against a life that does not lead others to glorify the Father