

SERMON BY MARCUS CLARK

Matthew 5:1-16

- 1 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him.
- 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:
- 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.
- 10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.
- 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
- 13 You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

As a Christ-Follower, you must be 100% assured of your identity **in Jesus** BEFORE engaging the culture.

This is Us: Know Who You Are

1. SALT (Matthew 5:13)

“**You are** the **salt** of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.”

Is the world around me (especially those unrepentant and not committed to discipleship or a life submitted to Christ) even interested in a compromised, straddling type of faith? Is what I’m showing those around me reflective of a sold-out, fully committed faith — something that would provide a different option to the unfulfilling life they currently live?

2. LIGHT (Matthew 5:14-16)

Matthew 5:14 “**You are the light** of the world. A **city** that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.”

There should be something attractive about the “skyline” of the life of a Christian.

Matthew 5:15 “Nor do they light a **lamp** and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it **gives light to all** who are in the house.”

Jesus would not give us a light with the expectation that we would hide it.

HOMEWORK: Matthew 25:14-29

Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

DON’T PUNK OUT — SHINE!

Matthew 5:11 “Blessed are you **when** they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake...”

Don’t sweat whether or not the larger culture accepts your message — they won’t — **shine anyway!**

We shine so that the darkness becomes illuminated, then Jesus can be more clearly seen!

How can I use my “SALTY SHINE” this week to lead someone else to a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ?