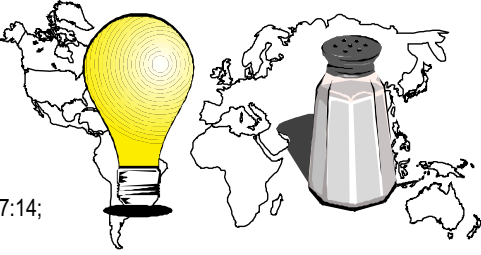


CHRISTIAN LIVING

Matthew 5:13-15



This far in Matthew

- We are introduced to the KING!
Matt 2:2; 27:10, 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev 17:14; 19:16
- His **KINGDOM** is not of this world! Luke 22: 26-30-
Things are done different of the way the kingdoms of this world operate. (John 18:36)
- The Kingdom has **SUBJECTS/ CITIZEN** (Philip 3:20 Eph 2:19, John 15:19; 2 Cor. 5:20)
- There is a supreme **LAW!** (Matt 7:21-23, Heb 10:28-29, 1 John 5:3 (Matt 7:21-23 "Not for evildoers"; Heb 10:26-31; Rev 12:17; John 14:14, 21-24; 15:10-14; James 1:22; 2:8-12; 1 John 5:1)
- **Territory** (John 18:36; 1 Peter 2:9)

Now;

- The Jesus is on the mountain; Picture of the King on the throne! Matthew 5:
- His sits Disciples CAME TO HIM! Another picture of His Kingship
- Then He begins the Sermon on the Mount!!!
- The King describes who "IN HIS STANDARD" are the blessed! (Last weeks Sermon): The poor in Spirit, Those who mourn, The Meek, The hungry and the thirsty, The merciful, The pure in heart, The peace makers, The persecuted!!! Matthew 5:3-11
- The audience: HIS Disciples (YOU) Pronouns are vital! Matthew 5:13 - According to Jesus the "You" refers to those: (Luke 9:23, John 10:27, Luke 14:27)
 - ① Who hear the voice of the Shepherd (King). (Said every time we read the bible readings on Sunday)
 - ② He knows them (King). When you sing the song "He Knows my name...how does He know you?? As the sheep of His flock, or as the Sheep of another flock. You are sheep of a certain shepherd the question is whose sheep are you? You belong to a kingdom. Who is your king? Who do you serve? (Joshua 24:13-15) Who is your master?
 - ③ They follow Him (King) Luke 9:23, John 10:27, Luke 14:27
 - ④ Disciples make every effort to make their calling and election sure (2 Pet 1:10)
 - ⑤ Counted the cost (Luke 14:26-28)

Are you sure that the Pronoun "**YOU**" refers to you!

You "ARE"

- **The King is just about to define for us what He expects of the TRUE DISCIPLE!**
- The words of the King are not a suggestion to HIS real disciples!!
- He is the Law giver!! You "**ARE**" not you "**will be**" and not "**Probably**"!!)
- Are you allowing the **King to define you/ His word?** Or are you allowing the world to world, the adverts on TV the wicked world and perverse generation around you to DEFINE who YOU are? I would rather the King define who I am! His will for my life and not my fellow creation (Romans 12:1-2).
- Matthew 5: 1-11 "The King defines strongly how those who are really blessed are supposed to be!

You are the salt of the earth,

That means you are; like salt of the earth disciples are to be

- Useful/ consistently and for all time in and out of season ; Covenant of salt (Numbers 18:19) All sacrifices were unacceptable if offered without salt (Leviticus 2:13)
- May be few in number just like salt grains are in food and used in small quantities or seem insignificant in one location yet very essential for use by the King of Kings (Matthew 9:37)
- Salt can only be SALT if the inherent qualities are evident. Likewise, Disciples are to so called by their fruit. By "being" and not by "title". Christians by inherent qualities and not by the NAME!! (Matthew 7:15)
- Preserves. Delays the execution of God's wrath or calamity for His own purposes Noah's case (Genesis 6: 9-11, Genesis 18:20-32-God would have spared Sodom and Gomorrah if He found even 10 who were righteous. Joseph (Genesis 39:4-6) Daniel etc , 2 Thessalonians 2: 6-8
- So is it with Godly and righteous leaders and disciples God uses them to warn a nation of the wrath of God. Some listen to them and others ignore them with respective consequences
- Salt of the earth ($\gamma\eta$) gha! Earth! Obtained from rock (dirt, soil)
- Never forget where the Lord picked you from to bring you to noble use in this perverse and wicked generation. 1 Peter 2:9-11
 - Just as the prodigal son (The father has picked you, has put a ring on your finger, and a robe of righteousness and has set a table before you in the presence of thine enemies.
 - Just as the disciples were chosen from the least of the elite, they were fishermen to fishers of men, in the same way Christ picked you from dead state to life to be a royal priesthood, a chosen people, a holy nation 1 Peter 2:9-11
- Gives thirst (leads to an increase in desire for water) Matthew 5:6 hunger and thirst for living water and when they get the living water they are clothed with God's righteousness.
- When put on wounds it is very penetrating (Painful) and cleanses the wound (Hebrews 4:12, 2 Cor. 2:15-16). You are the AROMA of Christ to all people! But perceived differently
- How are you making the world out there perceive the gospel? Are you living in a manner that says to those that see you "Taste and see that the Lord is Good" (Psalms 34:8)

You are the light of the world

- Darkness is basically the absence of Light (Genesis 1:1-3) The earth was VOID and WITHOUT FORM
 - Where is our source; Light of the world is Jesus! (John 1:1-7, John 8:12)
 - John (Matt 11:11) was not that light but bore witness to that light (John 1:8)
 - The disciples are not the light but a reflection of the true light!
 - To whom should we shine as light?
 - World (*cosmos*)- Occupants of the earths.
 - The world may not comprehend the light but the world did not comprehend the source either. But we are commanded to be the light and to reflect it irrespective of how the world perceives it this light anyway. John 1:5

- The light shines to all who are in the house. Let HIS light shine in such a way that those living in darkness will see their sin...shine to exposing the work of darkness/ their sin problem. (Eph 5: 8-11,
 - To those who are looking for every reason to ridicule THE faith (Phil 2:15).
 - The light cannot be overcome by the darkness.
- We are the reflectors of the great True light.....
- Like the moon, we are just reflecting from the source!
 - Position and Location from the source is important!!
 - What keeps us positioned so that we never move from the source?
 - The Word of God Psalms 119:104-106
 - The fellowship of brethren (Hebrews 10:21-25)
 - Prayer
 - When we are not in the right position we are hidden lights (1 Thess. 5:8).....

No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bushel!

- We are put as the focus of those around us. Our fellow brethren and the ungodly among us.
- For the brethren you harm the fellowship when you do not walk in the light
- For the ungodly among us you do not portray the TRUE source of the light by walking in darkness! Woe to those who MISREPRESENT our KING! Matthew 7:22
- Live in such a way that they will SEE THE LIGHT! Draw nearer to it! And know the light.... And the LORD will be glorified! Not you!
- He is the source of the light! The King will receive the glory! 2 Cor 2:17
- The moon can never be proud of its light! The Lord does not share His Glory with anybody!!! Isaiah 42:8

CONCLUSION

We (Those who profess Christ as our Lord and King) are salt and light. It is a blessing we should never take for granted or lightly. We possess these two INHERENT qualities and they should be evident in our works NOT our WORDS.