

Sermon Title: **“SALTY CHRISTIANS” OR “SEASONED CHRISTIANS”**

Matthew 5:13

- We ARE salt and we ARE light, simply because of the relationship we have with Christ (in Christ we are fused together in this union)
- The ultimate reason for this difference is that we are joined together with the Lord (we're one Spirit with Him)
 - When a believer is united together in Christ, they are held together in a bond sealed in God's power
 - Nothing can break this bond we have in Christ
 - Until we're fused together & unite in union with Christ, we're NOT ever going to be salt (we're only salt, when we're fully bound together in Christ)
- What Functions Salt has:
 1. Salt ... Acts as a Preserving Agent
 - If we love Jesus, our lives should demonstrate that
 2. Salt ... Enhances Flavor
 - As believers, we make life taste better, by our presence
 3. Salt ... Can Heal Wounds
 - As believers, we get to be a part of the healing process of others, who are hurting (we get to point them to Jesus)
 4. Salt ... Melts the Icy & Helps Others to NOT Slip & Fall
 - As believers our love is used to melt icy hearts
 - & as believers we encourage & edify other believers (helping them to maintain secure footing in a slippery world)
 5. Salt ... Causes a Thirst
 - As believers our presence should lead others to a thirst with can only be quenched in a personal relationship with Christ
- Our lives, as believers, should testify & display a life, which has been transformed through the Gospel of Jesus
- In the Ancient world, other impurities would often get mixed into the salt ending up polluting the quality of the salt
 - If believers allow impurities to creep into our lives, then our witness & testimony will be worthless
- If believers are NOT transformed by the power of the Gospel, then we're NO use to the Kingdom of God!
- The question that really matters is am I conformed to the image of Jesus Christ
 - True growth applies knowledge (we MUST do something with what we've learned)
 - God's NOT interested in us coming up with a better plan – God simply wants us to hear His voice & follow His lead