

“The Salt of the Earth”

Matt. 5:13-16

Introduction

- I. It should be obvious that whenever Jesus taught, we should be careful to study.
- II. On one occasion, Jesus referred to people in a way that no doubt caused some to think.
- III. What does it mean to be “the salt of the earth”?

Discussion

- I. The world at large is need of “salt”.
 - A. By claiming that His listeners were “salt”, Jesus implied that the world was in terrible shape.
 - B. The world is full of sin and dead as they live (1 Tim. 5:6).
 - C. Consider the the inspired commentaries on the world (Psm. 14:1-3; Jer. 17:9; Gen. 6:5-6).
 - D. Salt is different than thing on which it is placed.
- II. Being called “the salt of the earth” helps us to understand the people of God.
 - A. Salt can act as a preservative (it does not make something good, but only keeps something from turning bad).
 - B. Salt can act as an antiseptic (helps in the killing of germs).
 - C. Salt can act as a seasoning (increases the flavor).
 - D. The people of God are supposed to have these effects on the world (Eph. 5:1-4; John 17:15-18; Phil. 4:4-8, 11-12; Rom. 12:1-2; 1 John 2:15-17).
- III. What happens to the “salt” when it loses it's “saltiness”?
 - A. It no longer has a purpose.
 - B. When the people of God become just like the world, then we lose our effectiveness.

Conclusion

- I. We would all do better to pay attention to the Lord's teachings.
- II. Are we really “the salt of the earth”, or are have we lost our “saltiness”?