**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Pass the Salt |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Matthew 5:13 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1666 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. Matthew 5:13
   2. A lot of Christians are like salt that has lost its savor.
   3. Salt is necessary for life.
      1. Salt is a compound made of sodium and chlorine.
         1. These are two dangerous things, yet God in His chemistry has put the two together to form sodium chloride.
            1. We call it table salt, and it is necessary for life.
   4. Think of what God has done by the chemistry of the cross.
      1. He takes the deadly part of our nature, and when we are saved, He makes something new out of us.
      2. He gives us a new name.
         1. We are the salt of the Earth.
            1. Matthew 5:13
   5. In today’s message, we will look at the following:
      1. The dynamic of pure salt.
      2. The dissipation of polluted salt.
      3. The demand for preserving salt.
2. the dynamic of pure salt
   1. In Jesus’ time, pure salt was more valuable than gold.
      1. Pure salt was a rare delicacy.
      2. Pure salt was a medium of exchange.
         1. The English word “salary” literally means “salt-money”.
      3. Salt was very valuable because of what it does.
   2. Salt seasons.
      1. Salt causes flavor to come alive.
      2. Job 6:6
      3. Christians are to give life.
         1. They are to give to society a flavor, a tang, and a zest.
      4. Most people are living bland or flavorless lives.
         1. There is no excitement or thrill.
         2. They are always trying to do something to get themselves on some kind of a high.
         3. Many people are not that interested in going to Heaven or Hell.
            1. They just want to know how to make it on Monday.
      5. Christians are to be different.
         1. Colossians 4:6
         2. There should be something about every Christian that is absolutely exciting.
         3. Their speech should be seasoned with salt.
         4. There should be a zest and flavor about the children of God.
   3. Salt preserves.
      1. Matthew 5:13
         1. When Jesus was talking about being the salt of the Earth, He was talking to fishermen.
         2. Jesus talked about the preserving power of salt, as well as the seasoning power of salt.
            1. Salt in that day prevented decay; it restrained corruption.
            2. It was necessary for fishermen to keep their fish edible by salting them down.
      2. We need the preserving power of the Gospel-salt in this day of deadly decay.
   4. Salt heals.
      1. 2 Kings 2:19-22
         1. Elisha put a cruse of salt into some deadly and polluted waters, and the waters were healed.
            1. Where there was barrenness and bitterness, there came blessedness.
      2. Salt is an antiseptic.
      3. Salt has healing properties.
      4. In Bible times when babies were born, they were given a saline bath to hold down infection.
   5. Salt burns; salt irritates.
      1. Mark 9:49
         1. Fire and salt have something in common: they both burn.
      2. When the truth of God’s Word is rubbed into this diseased world, it will sting.
      3. Many people want a non-irritating brand of the Gospel.
         1. But no offense means no effect.
      4. We will be an irritant to the world when we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
   6. Salt penetrates.
      1. A pinch of salt will permeate an entire gallon of water.
         1. Salt is one of the few major compounds that will dissolve equally well in hot or cold water.
      2. We need to get the salt to the source where it can penetrate, activate, and change society.
      3. Many churches have become gigantic salt warehouses.
         1. You don’t salt the salt.
            1. We are salting one another when we need to salt society.
         2. We should be salt shakers getting out and changing the world.
         3. Matthew 5:13
            1. Jesus didn’t say that we are the salt of the church.

He said that we are the salt of the Earth.

* + 1. We hear a lot about separation of church and state.
       1. We may believe in the separation of church and state, rightly understood, but we don’t believe in the separation of salt from society.
    2. We should have separation from sin but not isolation from sinners.
       1. How many souls are going to Hell in our neighborhoods surrounded by people who claim to be the salt of the Earth?

1. the dissipation of polluted salt (matthew 5:13)
   1. Matthew 5:13
   2. In Bible times, they got much of their salt from the Dead Sea.
      1. There is more salt concentrated there than any other place on the Earth.
      2. When the sun would come out on that particular salt, it would evaporate the water, and the minerals would be left behind.
         1. It couldn’t be used as table salt.
         2. It was polluted.
            1. It was nauseous and bitter.
         3. It was salt, but all of the purity of salt had leaked out and leeched out.
            1. Only the impurities were left.

It was valueless.

* 1. Not only is polluted salt valueless, but it is also harmful.
     1. If it is put on crops, then the crops will die.
     2. If you were to pour it down a well, then the water would be poisoned.
  2. What would you do with this type of salt?
     1. It would be cast out on the roadway.
        1. Moisture would dampen it, and it would harden so that people could walk on it.
           1. Matthew 5:13
  3. The church of the Lord Jesus Christ today is being walked on like never before.
     1. The whipping boy in today’s society is the Bible-believing Christian.
     2. People have us beneath their feet.
  4. Luke 6:26
  5. The problem today is that the world has no respect for the children of God because we have lost our saltiness.

1. the demand for preserving salt
   1. If there ever were an age for the salt to work, then now is the age.
   2. America is at a crossroads.
      1. Many people don’t understand this because they are saltless saints.
         1. They are being trodden under the foot of man.
   3. What has happened in America?
      1. In 1962, the Supreme Court banned prayer in public schools.
         1. The free-born American should be able to pray anywhere.
      2. In 1963, reading the Bible in public schools was banned.
      3. In 1980, the posting of the Ten Commandments was banned in public schools.
      4. The United States has become a legally atheistic country.
      5. God, the Bible, the Ten Commandments, and prayer are illegal in public schools.
         1. But condoms, sex education, homosexuality, and humanism are legal.
      6. In 1973, abortion on demand was legalized in America.
         1. A little baby in the mother’s womb was classified as a non-person.
         2. Millions of preborn babies have been sacrificed upon the altar of expediency.
      7. Suicides have increased.
      8. Teenagers experiment with illegal drugs.
      9. Every year, there are teen pregnancies.
      10. Perversion has gone from a sin to a sickness to a socially accepted practice.
      11. Love is forsaken as lust.
      12. Satan is worshipped as a saint.
      13. Man is magnified above his Maker.
   4. The salt has lost its savor, and it is time for the salt to work.
   5. Not only is America ripe for judgment, but America is also being judged.
      1. All of the things listed above are the judgment of God.
   6. How does God judge us?
      1. He lets us have our way.
      2. Not only is God America’s only and biggest hope, but He is also America’s biggest threat.
   7. Our only hope is not in Washington, the Pentagon, on Capitol Hill, or in city hall.
      1. Our only hope to keep the decay down is the salt of the Earth, God’s people.
         1. We need to apply the salt.
   8. The problem is not with Hollywood, the liquor dealer, or the politicians.
      1. The problem is saltless saints.
         1. Matthew 5:13
   9. As long as there is God, there is hope.
      1. We can have revival in America.
      2. God is not dead, God is not old, God is not sick, and God has not lost His power.
      3. You say, “But men are so wicked today.”
         1. God has never had anything but wicked people with which to work.
            1. Adam was totally depraved.
   10. It is an insult to God to say that we cannot have revival in wicked times.
       1. On Mt. Carmel, Elijah proposed a contest with the priests of Baal.
          1. He said that the God that answers by fire would be God.
          2. God sent revival on Mt. Carmel, and the fire came and burned the wet sacrifice.
       2. God sent a salty saint, Jonah, to Nineveh.
          1. The entire city repented in sackcloth and ashes.
       3. There was a mighty revival in Jerusalem.
          1. Never was there a city where they hated Jesus Christ more.
             1. There they crucified Him.
             2. They were hardened to the Gospel.
             3. They had heard the preaching of the prophets and had turned from it.
          2. There was scandal.
             1. Simon Peter cursed, swore, and denied the Lord Jesus.
             2. Judas sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.
             3. And yet, on the day of Pentecost, the Spirit of God fell.

Those salty saints moved out, and there was revival.

* + 1. In the dark ages, there was the Protestant Reformation.
       1. God raised up Martin Luther, John Calvin, and others to preach the Gospel.
       2. The Protestant Reformation was a mighty revival and a change in history.
    2. In the eighteenth century in England, there was a complete breakdown in the government.
       1. The immorality of France was about to take England.
       2. God sent John Wesley and others to preach the Gospel, and there was a mighty revival in England.
    3. Unbelief was firmly entrenched in America when Dwight L. Moody was preaching.
       1. But the power of God fell because of one salty saint.
  1. It is not too late for America; we can have revival.
     1. Romans 5:20
     2. 2 Chronicles 7:14

1. CONCLUSION
   1. God took sodium, which is deadly and explosive, and God took chlorine, which is nauseous and deadly.
      1. By His divine chemistry, He put them together.
         1. God made something incredibly wonderful and necessary for life, preservation, and purity.
      2. The God who did that with common salt is the God who, by the chemistry of the cross, can change you and make you a brand-new creature.
         1. There are millions whose lives have been changed radically and dramatically for good, for God, and for Heaven by faith in Jesus Christ.
   2. Acts 16:31
      1. The word “believe” here doesn’t mean intellectual agreement.
         1. It is a Bible word which means trust and commitment.
      2. Trust Jesus, commit your life to Him, and you will be saved.
   3. When you are saved, you become the salt of the Earth.
   4. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   5. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. John 3:16