

Salt and Light

Matthew 5:11-16

Main Point:

Christ-like living has a preservative effect on the world and draws people to Jesus; therefore, fearlessly live this way before others to the glory of God.

1. Your Christ-like living has a preservative effect on the world.

2. Your Christ-like living also draws people to Jesus.

3. Therefore, fearlessly live this way before others to the glory of God.

Cross-References and Quotations

Mark Ross “The world’s headlong rush toward the evils that it has called good is opposed by the presence of Christ’s disciples in the world, just as salt impedes the process of decay in meat left exposed to the air.”

Sinclair Ferguson “More frequently it will happen on a small scale: your companions will moderate their language; the name of Jesus will not be so easily blasphemed; those with whom you work will develop something of a conscience about the standard of their work; the conversations of men or women will be brought under control; [and] respect for others will be more common.”

Philippians 2:14-15 ¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world. (NKJV)

John 8:12 ¹² ... "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (NKJV)

Sinclair Ferguson “Christians are the bright lights in an otherwise dark world; they are the stars by which others may learn to chart a course to the safety which can be found only in Jesus Christ.”

John 15:19-20a ¹⁹ "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you ... (NKJV)

Sinclair Ferguson “The true church is too different for the world to tolerate it. The world sees the kingdom of God as a threat to its own ways, and so it seeks to destroy it.”

1 Peter 1:3-4 ³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you. (NKJV)

2 Timothy 1:7-10 ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. ⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹ who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began. (NKJV)