## ARE YOU SALT THAT HAS LOST ITS FLAVOR?

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" In today's world, the Church needs the qualities of salt. To the Christian of today, Jesus tells us to be the "salt of the earth." In fact, in Matthew 5:13, He says, "You are the salt of the earth."

**Salt in the saltshaker is of no value.** It is effective only when it goes out of the shaker. Each Christian must position themselves in their God-directed place, being witness to Jesus Christ by word and walk, where they live and work and study. Christians must be people of the utmost personal integrity.

**Salt preserves.** Civilization thus far has been saved from destruction by the restraining influence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians. Without the Holy Spirit's influence of these "salty" believers, civilization does not climb upward, but goes downward as we are now seeing with the daily decaying of the society we live in.

**Salt purifies.** Salt eliminates decay and stops the impurities that lay siege to all things on earth. Without the purifying influence of the Church; society does not become more pure, it becomes more impure. The church is the salt God uses to purify society.

**Salt produces thirst.** Christians need to live in such a way so as to make people thirst to know God. Matthew 5:13, it says, "But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out (to throw or cast out) and trampled (to tread down) by men."

Salt loses its saltiness by being mixed with soil, even though it is still salt, it cannot be used. When Christians live too close to the world, they lose their power to help and to heal, to be a witness and win the lost to the Lord Jesus Christ. It is sad to say that today in most places, one cannot tell a church member from a lost person. The Scriptures warn us that loving the world makes us an enemy of God. 1JO 2:16 goes on to say, "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

It is only when the believer surrenders their life to Jesus Christ, will they be the salt that God wants them to be. John 15:5 "...apart from me you can do nothing."

This is something to pray about. Could it be that one of the sure signs we have lost our saltiness is not only that we have "made ourselves friends of the world", but that we have allowed ourselves to be pulled into "the world" enough to actually be trampled underfoot by men – which in turn has rendered us ineffective? Or consider this: Do you physically crave salty foods all the time? Perhaps your desire for all that extra salt could be directly related to your feeling "ineffective, tasteless and lacking salt".

<u>Salt enhances, seasons, flavors, preserves and heals.</u> Is your life enhancing, seasoning, flavoring, preserving and healing others?

(To receive a more comprehensive teaching of this message on audiocassette along with deliverance prayers, go to www.abidinglifeministries.org)