

# YE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

## MATTHEW 5:14-16

Text: Matthew 5:14-16

### **Matthew 5:14-16**

<sup>14</sup> Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. <sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Introduction:

The Lord states that we are not only salt but also He states that we are the “Light of the World.”

While salt deal with the moral, light deals with the spiritual. Salt relates to our character, but light relates to our conduct. Sat deals with what a person is, light deals with what a person does.

We certainly know what light does – it removes darkness, but we don’t know what light is other that a miracle.

The Lord said:

### **John 9:5**

<sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

Then in this message He states that “We are the light of the world.”

If we take the two statements together it simply means that we are to be like Him.

## **1. REALITY THAT’S INESCAPABLE – “YE ARE”**

### **Matthew 5:14**

<sup>14</sup>Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

#### **A. Light Revealed**

So, God loves man so much, and wants to help people in darkness to see His light, so He deposited the light in:

- The Scripture – Psalms 119:105

### **Psalms 119:105**

<sup>105</sup>Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

- The Saviour – John 9:5

### **John 9:5**

<sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

## B. Light Received

- Believing

### **John 12:35-36**

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. <sup>36</sup> While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.

### **John 12:46**

<sup>46</sup> I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

- Following

### **John 8:12**

<sup>12</sup> Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

- Sharing

### **2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

<sup>3</sup> But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: <sup>4</sup> In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. <sup>5</sup> For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

There are many styles of light today:

- Christmas Lights
  - Used only one time a year
  - Used only on a special occasion
  - More for show than anything else

As is it is with some Christians today – they come to church once a year or on a special occasion

- Flashing Lights
  - They are on and off – on and off – on and off
  - They have no consistency

Some today can't be counted on they are on and off – cold and hot.

- Flash Lights
  - Very useful in a time of trouble, but not all the time
  - Very short life of usefulness
  - Begin to fade out slowly

Some today are like flashlight, they're bright as long their batteries are fresh but when their batteries weaken they become dim and when their batteries die, they are of no use.

They have to be charged up all the time.

- Candle Light
  - Affected by the wind
  - Good on the inside only
- Spot Light
  - Can only concentrate on one area
- Flood Light
  - They cover a wide area, with usually a softer light
- Beacon Light
  - These warn of danger and guide people the right way

## 2. REQUIREMENT THAT'S IMPERATIVE – “LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN”

### Matthew 5:16

<sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

A. The Requirements Purpose – Let your light so shine before men

- To be a guiding light

### Acts 13:46-47

<sup>46</sup> Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. <sup>47</sup> For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

### Acts 26:16-18

<sup>16</sup> But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; <sup>17</sup> Delivering thee from the people, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, <sup>18</sup> To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

### **Philippians 2:15-16**

<sup>15</sup> That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; <sup>16</sup> Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

- To be a reproving light

### **John 3:19-21**

<sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. <sup>21</sup> But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

### **Ephesians 5:13**

<sup>13</sup> But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.

- To be a reflecting light

### **Ephesians 5:8**

<sup>8</sup> For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

B. The Requirements Plan – That they may see your good works

## Good works

### **Titus 2:7**

<sup>7</sup> In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine *shewing* uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

### **Titus 2:14**

<sup>14</sup> Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

### **Titus 3:8**

<sup>8</sup> *This is* a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

### **Ephesians 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

## **3. RESULT THAT'S ILLUMINATING – “GLORIFY YOUR FATHER”**

### **Matthew 5:16**

<sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

One result of our light shining is the Evangelization of men.

We cannot be effective in reaching the lost if our light is not shining in such a way that they can see it.



Though this is a positive it's not the priority. The goal of our good works being seen is so that they may glorify your Father which is in Heaven!

You don't turn a light on to draw attention to the light, but to whatever it is shining on.

### **Matthew 6:1-4**

<sup>1</sup>Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. <sup>2</sup>Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: <sup>4</sup>That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

The purpose of the light is to illuminate our Father which is in Heaven.

### **1 Peter 2:12**

<sup>12</sup>Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

### **1 Peter 4:11**

<sup>11</sup>If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God; if any man minister, *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

### **1 Peter 5:11**

<sup>11</sup>To him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

**Ephesians 3:21**

<sup>21</sup> Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Close:

To be the light of the world, we must know the light of Jesus Christ as our Savior.

To be light in this world is a great privilege and a great responsibility!

To those here who have never trusted Christ as their Savior, the invitation is to come and trust the Saviour today.

To those who are Christians today the invitation is decided or determine to let you light shine.

We are compared to a city that's set on a hill.

**Matthew 5:14**

<sup>14</sup> Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

To those who have dim, darkened or hidden lights may we allow the Lord to do a work in our hearts so that our lives as well as others will glorify our Father which is Heaven.