

Kingdom Community...The Story of Jesus Christ
“Christmas Lights” - Matthew 5:13-16
Sunday, December 22, 2013

INTRODUCTION:

A. Being

1. Happy in the Kingdom

2. Happy to display the Kingdom

B. Being Salt

1. Nature of Salt
 - a) Additive

 - b) Tasteful (makes for thirst)

 - c) Lasts

2. Purpose of Salt
 - a) Seasoning & preserving food
 - (1) Promotes flavor
 - (2) Protects from spoiling
 - (3) Preserves to keep unchanged

- b) Sprinkled on sacrifices
 - (1) Consecrated to God
 - (2) **Colossians 1:24**
 - (3) Christ’s work is enough...

- c) Thrown aside when useless
 - (1) Trampled underfoot
 - (2) **Spurgeon**, *The great lesson is, that if grace itself fails to save a man, nothing else can be done for him. “If the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted?” You can salt meat, but you cannot salt salt: if grace fails everything fails.* (The Gospel and Kingdom)

3. Application of Salt

- a) **Colossians 4:6**

- b) Certainly our deeds as seen in the immediate text

C. Being Light

1. Nature of Light
 - a) Shines

 - b) Makes manifest

2. Purpose of Light

a) Put on display to do it's job

- (1) Not under a basket
- (2) On a lamppost (Narnia)
- (3) Giving light to the household

b) Reveal something else (object, path)

- (1) From light, for light
- (2) **James 1:17-18**

c) Reveal the glory of the thing it's emanating from

d) Reveal purity

- (1) Exposing dark deeds
- (2) Hope in the gospel
- (3) **Isaiah 9:2**
- (4) Of the glory of God

3. Does your life emanate with good works?

4. Church, we are to preservatives and illumination in our culture.

D. Conclusion

1. You are to be different. You are to be distinct. Are you?

2. Does your life give off a flavor of the gospel?