



**TOPIC: GET SALTY – Pastor Alton Trimble
Sunday, December 9, 2018**

Continued...

1 PETER 3:15 (ASV) ... but sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: being ready always to give answer to every man that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear.

I. An analysis of the substance of the subject:

MATTHEW 5:13 “You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.”

A. The importance of salt in the health and life of the body and environment...

B. In the Bible salt is:

1. A reminder of a divine covenant.
2. A tool of marvelous healing and cleansing
3. That which creates desire
4. A preservative
5. A causer of peace
6. A necessary element in our testimony
7. An evidence of grace

C. We are called Salt because when we are salty, we are able to use:

1. Our Preserving Ability

PROVERBS 14:34a *Godliness makes a nation great...*

2. Our Penetrating Ability

ACTS 8:1, 4-8

3. Our Purifying Ability

II KINGS 2:19-22

EZEKIEL 16:4

ROMANS 12:1, 2

4. Our Pleasing Ability

PHILIPPIANS 1:27

5. Our Destructive Ability

JUDGES 9:45

II CORINTHIANS 5:17

6. Our Promoting Ability

JOHN 7:37-38

7. Our Proven Ability

II. A Severe Danger to Avoid

A. Salt's Value in Ancient Culture

1. Soldiers were often paid in salt
2. It was possible for salt in that day to lose flavor

B. How do we lose our saltiness?

1. By too much assimilation and not enough differentiation

MATTHEW 5:13a *"You are the salt of the earth."*

- a. Jesus' audience was just regular people and note what He says:

"You are the salt of the earth"

- b. Salt's importance is more easily seen in its' use in ancient time before refrigeration.
- c. Jesus is saying, in the midst of the rotting and decaying world, I've left one thing – My people!
- d. We are, in the economy of God, what is going to preserve this decaying world from going into total godlessness.

- e. Our conformity to Him is the only barrier to the rot and decay of our culture or society.
 - f. Salt spilled into the sand, for example at the beach, cannot be recovered.
2. Our differentiation as opposed to assimilation into the world is a result of our transformation.

a. ROMANS 12:1-21 (NLT)

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. ³ Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. ⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. ⁶ In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. ⁷ If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. ⁸ If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. ⁹ Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰ Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. ¹¹ Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. ¹² Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. ¹³ When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. ¹⁵ Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all! ¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. ¹⁸ Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD. ²⁰ Instead, "If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads." ²¹ Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

- b. Example of the early church changing their world...
- 3. Not monitoring the expiration date of our product.

III. The Place We Don't Want to Be

A. If we have no savor we are of no use to God

- 1. You get walked on

MATTHEW 5:13 *"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless."*

B. We have become good for nothing in God's economy

- 1. When God uses us, people might not like us, but there is a level of respect

C. Don't end up being an outcast

- 1. Be of use to God
- 2. The first step is to realize you can become a castaway

1 CORINTHIANS 9:27 *I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.*