

## **BE THE SALT**

Mathew 5:13-17- "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Jesus uses the analogy of salt as he addresses the multitude. Salt as we know is readily available everywhere. It has so many uses some of which include; flavoring food, as a food preservative and as anti-septic. Salt during that time of roman rule had high monetary value than now. In fact in that culture someone would be paid with the salt as a wage for work done. It is there that the phrase, 'you are not worth your salt' was coined.

In this comparison, Jesus was alluding to the fact that salt only becomes valuable when it is used for that which was intended. God has a plan and a purpose for each one of us-that is why we are here on earth. Scientifically salt cannot lose its saltiness, but if it cannot be used for its intended purpose it becomes useless and therefore cast out so it can be trampled upon. As Christians, we are likened to salt granules.

In the same way Jesus used the equivalence of those who followed him as light of the world. The implication was that we are living in a dark world both morally and politically. Jesus is teaching us as his followers that the very fact that we are his followers, we must act according to the way Christ did and let our action glorify the father.

## **Signpost**

Like a signpost, the world is looking at us as Christians for direction. Christ is inviting us to do good works in the neighborhood, market place and our homes. The moment we became Christians, we turned into targets- the world watches the way we speak and act to either validate their sinful actions or make an about turn and follow Jesus. Most Christians have blasphemed the name of God hence the indifference in most non- believers.

As believers using the social media during this times of political uncertainties-

1. We shall not be distracted from our God given mandate. Of going out and making disciples for Jesus because life must go on in spite of what is going on around us.
2. We have an opportunity to shine the light of God to the different factions of the political divide in our neighborhoods and market place and the different friends we have from different cultures on the various platforms we are using.
3. God expects us to rise above the general current of insults and intolerance and be a voice of sanity in these uncertain times. Knowing full well that nothing has taken God by surprise. He's got everything in his sights even when we think we need to help him right the wrongs we see.

It then begs the question, are you going to be the salt and the light? Or conform to the way the rest of the world responds to issues?

It's your constitutional right to vote, therefore its incumbent upon you and I as Christians to act differently from the rest of the crowd. While most thrive on causing division among brothers and sisters,

know that even as the world is watching how we act and speak-God is also observing our actions and words. Your words should be seasoned with salt. We have been saved and we have been redeemed by our savior Jesus Christ. Before you hit post, ask yourself, am I the light? Or am in need of light?

I know most of us would like to weigh in our views either rejoicing that justice has been served by the supreme court verdict or crying that unfairness has been committed by commuting an earlier announcement. We should hold ourselves in check in the knowledge that we are children of mercy and grace. If Christ judged us with the same yardstick, none of us would be here because we will all come up short because we are inherently sinners. We must then be ambassadors for peace. Everything we do should be subservient to Jesus. Though we have become a very insulting country and insulting people are propelled to national prominence, God is depending on you and me to sway our circles of influence for his glory.

As even Christians vow die for their parties and preferred candidates, you and I should not stake our lives for someone else because it's only Jesus who died for us. Whoever you and I vote for has a 50-50 chance he will win or lose. You should know it's never that serious. We should all RISE ABOVE. And should never discredit someone on the basis of tribe.

### **The call**

In a few weeks, we are moving into our new sanctuary. That building is not meant for us to be comfortable, we need to be the salt. As we enter into the mission month, the mandate is to make new disciples and followers. You and I should go out of our own way to make sure the church is filled up. Woe unto to us if the new sanctuary, turns into a museum. Woe unto us if in ten years the sanctuary is empty.

In the sanctuary each of us are granules of salt. We therefore should take serious that which Christ mandated us to make disciples of God- lest we lose our saltiness and be discarded out and be trampled upon. You and I should remember the reason we've been left here on earth is to be Christ-like examples and make fishers of men.