

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

#4 The parable of the city on a hill

Speaker: Auke Rienstra



MATT. 5:13-16

13“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.



MATT. 5:13-16

14“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.



MATT. 5:13-16

16 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.

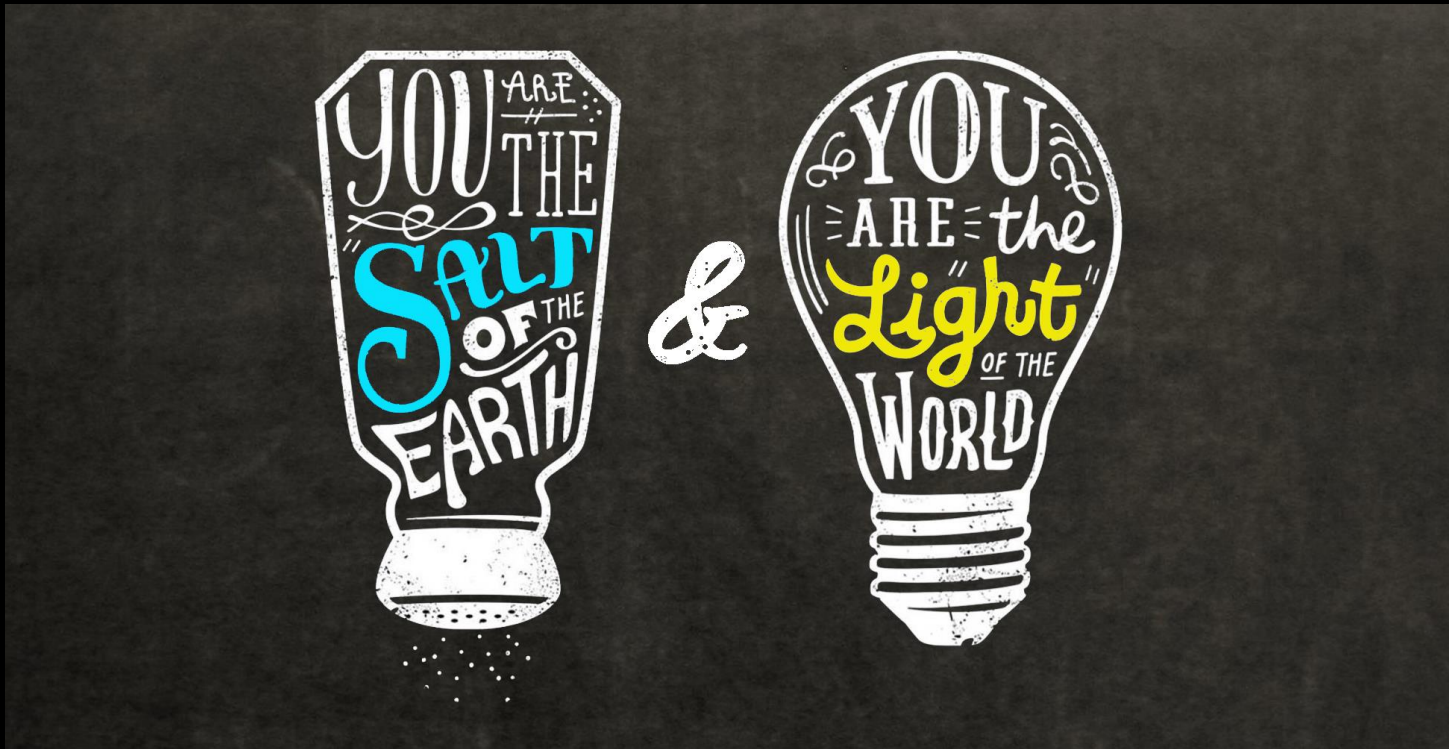


THE CONTEXT

- Part of the sermon on the mount
- Jesus was preaching and proclaiming the Kingdom of God
- He talked about the be-attitudes: who and how to enter Gods Kingdom
- Now He talks about our purpose for this live, right now



TWO SYMBOLS



MATT. 5:13A

13 "You are the salt of the earth..."

- That doesn't sound very 'cool'... or is it?
- What Jesus actually says is that you are very valuable!



MATT. 5:13A

13 "You are the salt of the earth..."



3 MAIN USES OF SALT

1. Preservative
2. Purifier/antiseptic
3. Seasoning



"The most obvious general characteristic of salt is it's essential difference from the medium in which it is placed"

- Tasker



THE BIG QUESTION IS:

- Are we salty?
- Are we giving our surroundings a taste of Jesus?
- Are we sprinkling salt in our ...?



MATT. 5:13B

... 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.

- Tasteless, to become nominal Christians
- Used to make roads from, to be trampled upon
- Does this mean you can lose your salvation?
: No!
- But you can lose your purpose (1 Cor. 3:10-15)



MATT. 5:14-15

THE SECOND SYMBOL: LIGHT

14" You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 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.



MATT. 5:14-15

THE SECOND SYMBOL: LIGHT

- Our faith is not private but public
- We are not the spiritual Christian CIA
- Our 'light' should be seen by everyone
- We are like the moon reflecting the light of the sun
- City on a hill, a light on a stand also gives direction



MATT. 5:16

16 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.



MATT. 5:16

Good works are not the root but the fruit of our salvation

Good works are part of us reflecting the good work of Jesus

We are also called to articulate the Gospel (Rom. 10:14)



ARE WE SALTY AND SHINING?

