

A Proclamation from the King

- *“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. Mt. 5:13”*
- Once we are baptized we **ARE** salt! In baptism, our character was changed forever.
- The only question now is whether we are a salt that savors and has value to God and man
- Or a salt that has no flavor and is worthless!
- There is no going back. Our character changed forever when we became a Christian

Jesus Explained Further

- 33 *“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. 34 Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? 35 It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” (Lk 14:33-35)*
- Salt is linked to forsaking all.
- We can't define salt and what it does. Jesus does!
- If we have not forsaken all and continued to forsake all, the salt is losing its flavor.
- In His own words we are fit for nothing!
- If we have ears ... we better hear!

Elaboration & Parables

- His words are the conclusion of a sermon:
- *Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, 26 "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. 27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. Lk. 14:25-27*
- Salt and conviction: Nothing Higher than Jesus
- Salt and sacrifice: If we must lose all ... Do It!
- Salt and priorities: His demands transcend all!
- Salt and commitment: Jesus is LORD!
- Any compromise: SALT IS LOSING SAVOR!

Elaboration and Parables

- Jesus gave two parables to illustrate and define salt:
- *For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it — 29 lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'* Lk 14:28-31
- The point of the parable: Jesus demands all and we knew it before we became salt.
- If we can't complete what we started we are just like this man. He committed the resources, spent money, but it was only a waste of time.
- Once we make the commitment we must follow thru

Elaboration and Parables

Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. 33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. 34 "Salt is good...14:31ff

We are the first king.

The war is for our soul

These are the conditions of peace.

We must forsake all that we have b/c we can't win!

If we do all the above we are the salt Jesus needs to savor and help him. If we don't we are useless.

Obvious Conclusions

- Salt and genuine discipleship are linked.
- If we have not counted this cost we are not His disciples and our salt has no savor.
- A direct tie between the cost to build that tower and the cost of discipleship.
- When we are not paying, our “*salt has lost savor.*”
- A direct link between the king who can't win the battle and each disciple.
- In the war for our soul, we lost the battle long ago and are dead in our sins. (Eph. 2:1-10).
- We must seek His conditions of peace. When we have met those conditions, we will have “*forsaken all that we have*” and our salt is fully seasoned.

Only When we Forsake All

- *Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. 15 For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. 16 To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. And who is sufficient for these things? 2Cor 2:14-17*
- If we compromise the fragrance changes!
- Truly if we hate father and mother, carry our cross and deny ourselves we are an aroma.

Salt in Sodom

- In Gen 18:22-33 God revealed to Abraham, the salt of Sodom and Gomorrah.

- Both preservative and flavoring power of just a few righteous would have been enough to save Sodom

- Lot was salt. Gen 19:6-10; II Pet 2:7-10.

- He did allow the wickedness of the place he lived to influence him, but instead sought to influence them. This is what true salt will do. Col 4:6

- Brethren, are we willing to stand up against all the evil and wickedness

- We must be cautious with the friends we choose I Cor 15:33; II Cor 6:11-7:1