

**WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN#2**  
**SALT OF THE EARTH**  
**GET OUT OF THE SALT SHAKER**

MATT. 5<sup>13</sup> “**You are the salt of the earth.** But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. NIV

Jesus has placed great worth and value on you!

A far-flung **trade in ancient Greece involving exchange of salt for slaves gave rise to the expression, "not worth his salt."**

There is more to salt than we would superficially consider. We are compared to salt for a reason. Let's consider a few.

**1. Salt is essential to life.**

**A. We are mostly composed of salt water.**

Why does sweat leave a white ring stain on our clothes?

We are salty.

**B. If we do not eat salt we will die.**

Salt also had military significance. For instance, it is recorded that thousands of Napoleon's troops died during his retreat from Moscow because their wounds would not heal as a result of a lack of salt.

That is just how desperately the world needs your witness. Jesus said, “I am come that they might have life, and that, more abundantly.” If the world does not see Jesus in us they will perish.

**2. Salt enhances flavor.**

**A. Everyone we come in contact with should be better because we are present.**

Are people's lives better because you are in their life?

**B. Our purpose is to add life, the good life, to the world.**

Psa. 34 8 O taste and see that the Lord is good.

The need for salt is great. Many are living a tasteless life. There is no joy. **The life they see us enjoying will be the life they desire.**

We must create a taste for Jesus. How will people want him if we don't add flavor to life?

Our saltiness is love, joy, and peace in the Holy Spirit. It is our good works that come forth from our relationship with Jesus.

Matt. 5 16...let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

It is clothing, feeding, and giving a drink in Jesus name.  
It is binding the wounds of the ill, visiting the prisoner, caring for the widow and orphan gets the worlds attention.

C. Jesus warns us of **losing our saltiness**.  
But if the salt loses its saltiness,

The salt the Israelites obtained was often impure, mixed with alkali salts from around the Dead Sea. Water could leach out the sodium chloride, leaving the other salts intact, so that it looked like salt but tasted insipid. This seems to be the basis of Jesus' warning about salt losing its saltiness. The essential Christ-inspired difference can be leached out by the constant flow of the world's values through our lives. If we no longer stand boldly and faithfully for Christ and Christian values, we become worthless to him. Less than worthless, in fact, since by our mild claims of our Christianity we act as a counterfeit of the real salt. Worthless, insipid, tangy-less salt is good for nothing except for throwing on the pathway to keep the grass from growing on it. Would you rather be a grass killer or a food enhancer?

### 3. Salt is a **preservative**

It is an essential element in the diet of not only humans but of animals, and even of many plants. It is one of the most effective and most widely used of all food preservatives (and used to preserve [Egyptian mummies](#) as well).

The Church or Christian's saltiness keeps the work of evil in check until the Lord comes. We are the God's favor to the world. When the church is gone then the Antichrist is revealed.

2Thessalonians 2<sup>7</sup> For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; **but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.**

- A. **It burns**- We make people uncomfortable
- B. **It purifies**- We are to set the moral tone for society.

### 4. Salt is a sign of **covenant**.

Lev. 2<sup>13</sup> Season all your grain offerings with salt. Do not leave the salt of the covenant of your God out of your grain offerings; add salt to all your offerings.

The salt for the sacrifice was not brought by the offerers, but was provided at the public charge, as the wood was, Ezra 7:20–22 . And there was a chamber in the court of the temple called *the chamber of salt*, in which they laid it up. *Can that which is unsavoury be eaten without salt?* God would hereby intimate to them that their sacrifices in themselves were unsavoury. **The saints, who are living sacrifices to God, must have salt in themselves, for every sacrifice must be salted with salt** ( Mk. 9:49 , 50), and our speech must be *always with grace* ( Col. 4:6 ), so must all our religious performances be seasoned with that salt. Christianity is the salt of the earth.

**Since salt was regarded in the ancient Near East as not being destructible by fire, “a covenant of salt” seems to refer to an eternal covenant**

2Chr 13<sup>5</sup> Don't you know that the Lord , the God of Israel, has given the kingship of Israel to David and his descendants **forever by a covenant of salt?**

#### **5. Salt is may be a healing agent.**

2kings 2<sup>20</sup> “Bring me a new bowl,” he said, “and put salt in it.” So they brought it to him. <sup>21</sup> Then he went out to the spring and threw the salt into it, saying, “This is what the Lord says: ‘I have healed this water. Never again will it cause death or make the land unproductive.’” <sup>22</sup> And the water has remained wholesome to this day, according to the word Elisha had spoken.

The world is bitter and needs a sweetness that comes from a relationship with God. The world desires life change. Nothing will change in their life until we are the salt that brings healing to their bitterness.

We must keep our saltiness. We must get out of the salt shaker (the walls of the church). We are called to make a difference in our world.