

Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-16)

Where there is decay, we need salt. Where there is darkness, we need light. To the nations we go as salt and light. // Dr. Danny Akin

This generation is responsible for this generation of souls on the earth. // Keith Green

A christian and also a congregation are plants that have grown from the seed sown by other christians and congregations. Therefore, this congregation and every individual christian is to be a seed from which new christians and congregations can ever again grow. // CFW Walther

Salt

Salt had at least five functions in the ancient world:

- 1) purity
 - 2) preservation
 - 3) flavor
 - 4) healing
 - 5) creation of thirst
- Most scholars view the words of Jesus as focusing on purity and preservation.
 - *David Mitchell said of Eric Lidell "[his] faithful and cheerful support made the difference for many in the camp. Otherwise, they would not have survived."*
 - *The Message - "If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness?"*

- *Salt is good as long as it maintains its integrity. However, salt in the ancient world was susceptible to becoming contaminated and impure. // DA Carson*
- Luke 14:34-35
- *Salt is only useful when it gives of itself. // David Dockery*

Light

Light in the Old Testament:

- 1) revelation
- 2) instruction
- 3) hope
- 4) joy
- 5) righteousness
- 6) salvation
- 7) divine glory or presence

- *"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." // Isaiah 49:6*
- *Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." // John 8:12*
- *"Does it not stir our hearts to go forth and help them, does it not make us long to leave our luxury, our exceeding light, and go to them that sit in darkness?" // Amy Carmichael (missionary to India)*
- *Christ has lighted us that we might enlighten the world. // Charles Spurgeon*
- 1 John 1:5-10

- *He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son. // Colossians 1:13*
- *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. // 1 Peter 2:9*

The purpose of a disciple of Jesus is to provide light. // Dr. Danny Akin

I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light. // Ion Keith-Falconer (missionary to Egypt and Yemen)