



Show Reality #1 Salt is Salty!

Matthew 5:13, *"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 underfoot."*

THE TASTE OF SALT

✳ **Salt** | used for trade, medicine, a preservative, taste. There is something both delicious and important about salt.

Psalms 34:8, *"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!"*

Psalms 63:5-8, *"I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you. On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night. Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings. I cling to you; your right hand upholds me."*

John 4:15, *"The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.'"*

Romans 12:1, *"Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice--alive, holy, and pleasing to God--which is your reasonable service."*

THE NECESSITY OF SALT

Colossians 4:5-6, *"Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."*

Show Reality #2 Light is Bright!

Matthew 5:14-16, *"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

THE REALITY OF LIGHT

✳ Jesus is the light of the world.

John 8:12, *"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'"*

John 12:46, *I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.*

Matthew 4:16, *“The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.”*

✳ **We shine because He shines** | Jesus tells his disciples they will stick out like a city on a hill.

✳ **A City on a Hill** | As a Decapolis city, Hippos was fully Roman: likely containing temples, bathhouses, gymnasia, and a nymphaeum. In effect, Hippos' position allowed it to broadcast and proclaim to the basin surrounding the lake the wonder and glory of Rome. At night, its lights would have been very distinct and visible. Likewise, Jesus makes the comparison between his followers and Hippos: just as Hippos is high, prominent, visible, and proclaiming *Pax Romana* to all, Jesus' disciples are to be high, prominent, and visible, proclaiming *Pax Christus* to the world. -Vernon H. Alexander, *“The Words and Teachings of Jesus in the Context of Galilee.”* in *Lexham Geographic Commentary on the Gospels*,

Psalm 19:8, *The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.*

Psalm 119:130, *The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.*

1 Peter 2:9-10, *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

Ephesians 5:8-10, *For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.*

Ephesians 5:11-14, *Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”*

2 Corinthians 3:18, *So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.*

✳ **So, is Jesus the light or are we the light?** | “When light refers to Christ, there is a reference to him as Savior, and not merely one who reveals great truths. When believers are called the light of the world, there is clearly no saving significance in the description. They do not accomplish the world's salvation, but they do point it out. It is their function, as redeemed people to live as redeemed people; they are to show the quality of life proper to the people of God and, in this way, act as light to the people of the world.” (“Light,” in *Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible*).

THE RESULT OF LIGHT

Proverbs 4:18, *But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.*

Romans 13:12-14, *The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.*

Philippians 2:14-15, *Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.*

2 Corinthians 4:7, *We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.*

✳ “It is not something we create or make up, but something we allow the Lord to do through us. It is God's light; our choice is whether to hide it or let it shine. - John MacArthur