

MARCH 13

"That world outside there is not waiting for a new definition of Christianity, it's waiting for a new demonstration of Christianity."

- Leonard Ravenhill

"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.

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." - Matthew 5:13-16

"Open your arms to the naked and shivering,
open your arms, open your arms.
We need a little less taking, a whole lot more giving.
We're so safe and warm, we can open our arms.
And love a little bit stronger, and pray a little bit longer, longer.
Jesus says, when we love someone in his name,
we're loving him."

-Keith Green

Salt and Light

"You are the salt of the earth; ...You are the light of the world." -Matthew 5:13-14

When something becomes familiar to us we can miss its significance. Look at the verses we just read. They are often quoted, sung in choruses, displayed on refrigerators and in pictures on walls. But if you slow down and take a closer look, you will see a word that changes the meaning and announces huge implications for the church in the world. The word is "the". This definitive article, "the", is exclusive. In other words Jesus is saying we are the *only* salt...we are the *only* light of the world.

Salt has been used throughout history as a preservative substance to resist decay. Light brings life and by it we see. Jesus is saying that we are the worlds only preservative and light. How are we doing? How are you doing?

In an ever increasing secular America, the church has been more like a thermometer than a thermostat. As a thermometer we measure clearly all the things that are wrong, out of order and unjust, but we are called to do more than just adapt to the world. We are called and given authority to change it.

Meditate on Philippians 2:14-16

Proclamations and Prayer

"Father, in the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit I pray today that I would be salt and light to those I come in contact with. Stir, awaken and revive me and the church in America with a fresh passion for the lost. Release a boldness to speak the truth in love with prophetic authority to our generation. Let us be filled with Your heart and compassion for those who are bound and in darkness. In Jesus' name, Amen!