

# SOTM - You Are Salt and Light

## Don't lose your saltiness, don't hide your light - it is to give glory to your Father

Mat 5:13-48 ESV "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is **no longer good for anything** except to be thrown out and **trampled** under people's feet.

- You ARE THE SALT of the earth - salt was added to manure to fertilize (growth and productivity)
- In Luke 14 - if it loses its salty taste...It is no good for the soil or for manure

14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, **let your light shine before others**, so that they may **see your good works** and **give glory to your Father who is in heaven**.

- You ARE THE LIGHT of the world - good works glorify God - our life in Christ is not to be hidden

## Don't relax the commandments - but rely on His Righteousness

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, **unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven**.

**The list seems impossible -- we relax them or grade on a curve -- there is a better way to righteousness**

- V 21-44 Committing Murder → Anger or insults
- V 27-32 Committing Adultery → Looking with lust → divorce with no grounds
- V 33-37 Lying or making oaths → do what we say we will do
- V 38-42 Revenge eye for an eye → Turn the other cheek
- V 43-44 Love your neighbor, hate your enemy → love your enemy and pray for those who persecute

**Expectations salt and light seems impossible - your righteousness must exceed that of Pharisees-BUT- He said, "I came to FULFILL THEM" -- righteousness comes from faith in & allegiance to Jesus Christ**

- Php 3:6-9 ESV as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; **as to righteousness under the law, blameless**. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of **knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order **that I may gain Christ** 9 and be found in him, **not having a righteousness of my own** that comes from the law, but **that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith--**

**It is His righteousness that we must seek**

- Mat 6:33 ESV But seek first the **kingdom of God and his righteousness**, and all these things will be added to you.
- 2Co 5:21 ESV For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, **so that in him we might become the righteousness of God**.

**That you may be, SONS of the Father, PERFECT as our heavenly Father is -- it is only possible in Jesus**

- 45 so that you may be **sons of your Father** who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? **48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect**.

**Living as SALT and LIGHT - is an outcome of the Righteousness of Christ lived through us, it is not just for us -- it impacts our world, people glorify God and see what God is really like**