

Studies from the Sermon on the Mount

“A Christian’s Influence” – Matthew 5:13-16

I. Introduction to Metaphors.

A. Definition --

1. Matthew 5:13-16

B. Salt and Light

1. Historian’s remarks

C. Jesus states, “You are salt and light.”

1. Liberal theological tendency.
2. His remarks are for the saints and not sinners.
 - a. God as Father to all or Father to some.
 - b. Matt. 25:31-46; 12:46-50; Eph. 1:5; John 1:12-13; 3:1-8; Mark 12:31;
John 8:42-44; John 17:6-9, 14-16, 20; John 6:37-39; Acts 9:4; 22:7; 26:14

II. Looking closely at the metaphors.

A. Salt of the Earth.

1. Preservative found in the church.
2. Do we curb sin around us?

- a. John Stott.
- b. Luke 14:34

1. Distinctiveness of the Christian.

- a. Colossians 4:6; Ephesians 4:29

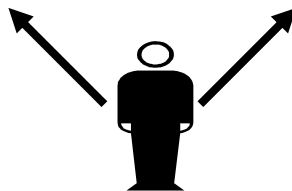
3. Preserving impact on society.

- a. Ezekiel 16:4; Judges 9:45

B. Light of the World

- 1. Statement of Jesus – John 8:12
- 2. Statement of Paul – Philippians 2:15
- 3. All spheres of life – Ephesians 5:7-10
- 4. Good works

Character Development or Social Action



The Christian is concerned with both

III. Concluding remarks (John Stott.)

A. There is a fundamental difference between Christians and non-Christians, between the Church and the world.

B. We must accept the responsibility which this distinction puts upon us.

C. Our responsibility is twofold:

1. Double influence

2. Two metaphors combined.