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## The Parables of Jesus Christ: Flavored Salt Versus Flawed Salt

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# THE PARABLES OF JESUS CHRIST

## PARABLE ONE: Flavored Salt Versus Flawed Salt (Mt. 5:13; Mk. 9:50; Lk. 14:34)

### SURVEY

Believers are to be the salt of the earth, but if salt loses its flavor, it is worthless for seasoning or matters of preservation.

### SIGNIFICANCE

This is the first of no less than five parables related by Jesus during His initial formal address to the multitudes. For the remaining four, see parables 2, 3, 4, and 5.

### SPIRITUAL TRUTHS

- Salt played an important role in the Bible.
  1. All grain offerings under the law of Moses were to be accompanied with salt (Lk. 2:13).
  2. In the future millennium all animal offerings will be accompanied with salt (Ezek. 43:24).
  3. God ratified His covenant with David by salt (2 Chron. 13:5).
  4. Paul commands that our very words *"be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how you should answer every man"* (Col. 4:6).
- In the days of Jesus Roman soldiers often received their pay not in gold but in salt.
- As has been observed, Jesus said we are to function as salt. Salt thus:
  1. Flavors

*"Can that which is unsavory be eaten without salt? or is there any taste in the white of an egg?"* (Job 6:6)
  2. Preserves

It is ironic indeed that those godless individuals who hate and prosecute believers over the very stability and relative health of their society to the restraining and preserving ministry of those same people!
  3. Purifies

*"And he said, Bring me a new cruse, and put salt therein. And they brought it to him. And he went forth unto the spring of the waters, and cast the salt in there, and said, Thus saith the LORD, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren land." (2 Kings 2:20-21)*

- It has also been suggested that salt serves to make one thirsty, indicating our daily walk should produce a thirst in the lives of unsaved friends, co-workers, relatives, etc.
- Finally, Jesus warned that savorless salt would be *"cast out, and ... be trodden under foot of men"* (Mt. 5:13).

Perhaps Paul had these words in mind when he would later write concerning the Judgment Seat of Christ.

*"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (1 Cor. 3:11-15)*