

# How Salty Are You?

September 30, 2018 – Mark 9:42-50

---

*“And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off, It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where - their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched. – Everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”*

I once heard a story of a rich business owner who was looking for an employee who would be second in command of the business. After the rich business owner had collected applications and narrowed it down to the top ten, the rich business owner would take each applicant out to each at a fancy restaurant. While they were eating the rich business owner would observe the applicant as he or she ate their meal. The one thing that the rich business owner watched for was after the applicant received their meal from the waiter, what did the applicant do? Did the applicant first taste the food to see if it needed any salt, or did the applicant simply grab the salt and start shaking it on?

Only one applicant first tasted the food before shaking on any salt. This is the applicant who the rich business owner hired.

As Christians we are the salt of the earth. Jesus tells us this in **Matthew 5:11-16** – *“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. **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 by men.** You are the light of the world. A city 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 men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”*

If you are reading this, and you know someone in your family or in your neighborhood who claims to be a Believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, but it appears that they have lost their saltiness, warn them, encourage them to get back into the Word of God, to get back to the pew in the House of their Lord, to get back to the Lord’s Supper in which Christ Jesus gives them His body and blood, in with and under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of sins.

Christ Jesus has won the Kingdom of heaven for us. AMEN!