

## I. Jesus Speaks of a Seasoned Life (13)

A. A current reality - "You are the salt of the earth..."

1. Salt prevents decay
2. Salt promotes flavor
3. Salt produces thirst

B. A potential loss - "...but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?"

C. An alarming possibility- "...it is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet."

## II. Jesus Speaks of a Shining Life (14-16)

A. His surprising declaration (14a) - "You are the light of the world..." **John 8:12 - I am the Light of the word**

B. His two illustrations (14b-15a) - "A city set on a hill cannot be hidden **{Exposed}**. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket **{Undimmed}** ..."

C. His clear expectation (15b-16) - "...put it...on a stand; and it gives light to all in the house. 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."

## III. Jesus Speaks of a Scriptural Life (17-19)

A. What Jesus explains to us concerning the Scriptures (17-18) - "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."

1. Jesus fulfills the symbolism in the Old Testament
2. Jesus fulfills the demands of the Old Testament
3. Jesus fulfills the prophecies of the Old Testament **{SEE QUOTE BELOW}**

B. What Jesus expects of us concerning the Scriptures (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."

1. Learn for yourself what Scripture says
2. Share with others what Scripture says
3. Obey what Scripture says

## IV. Jesus Speaks of a Superficial Life (20)

A. A religious understanding of holiness - "...unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees..."

B. A defeating underestimating of holiness - "...you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

C. A biblical understanding of holiness - Imputed righteousness is imparted righteousness. We live out our position in Christ.

**A quote from Dr Louis S. Lapidus, a Jewish Messianic scholar and pastor:**

**“Someone did the math and figured out that the probability of just eight prophecies being fulfilled is one chance in one hundred million billion. That number is millions of times greater than the total number of people who've ever walked the planet!**

**"He calculated that if you took this number of silver dollars, they would cover the state of Texas to a depth of two feet. If you marked one silver dollar among them and then had a blindfolded person wander the whole state and bend down to pick up one coin, what would be the odds he'd choose the one that had been marked?"**

**With that he answered his own question: "The same odds that anybody in history could have fulfilled just eight of the prophecies."**

**Strobel Lee. The Case of Christ. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1998, p. 173.**