**Dead to the World – Matt. 5:13 -14**

**Focal Truth: Believers are dead to the world yet living in godliness in the world**

**Observations**

1. **The believer lives in the flavorless world with godly saltiness – 5:13**

*You are the salt of the earth…*

1. The believer’s godliness in the world is their saltiness

They **flavor** the world by speaking the truth of God in Jesus Christ

 **The distinctiveness of salt**

Believers have a **distinct smell** of life or death in the world – 2 Cor. 2: 14 -16

 *But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, & manifests*

 *through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place. For we are*

 *fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved & among those*

 *who are perishing, to one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma*

 *from life to life.*

Believers have **distinct speech** - Col. 4:6 Let your speech always be with grace as though seasoned with salt

 Believers have **distinct desires** – Matt. 6:33 *Seek first the kingdom of God…*

Believers have **distinct look** - Eph. 4:25 put on the new self, which is in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness & holiness of the truth

They **heal** the broken hearted & forgotten in the world by their godly deeds

They **preserve** the power of the gospel in the world by their godly presence

They **react** to the ungodliness of the world by living in righteousness

1. Believers who live in worldliness lose their saltiness – Warning of losing saltiness

*If the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out & trampled underfoot by men*

1. Believers who maintain their holiness maintain their saltiness

Mark 9:50 – Have salt in yourself

1. **The believer lives in the darkness of the world as godly light – 5:14 – 15**

*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden, nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house*

1. The godly life of the believer is the only light in the world of sinful darkness

*You are the light of the world…*

Eph. 5:8 – you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord, walk as children of Light

1. The godly brightness of the believer is seen by all

*A city set on a hill cannot be hidden, nor does anyone light a lamp & put it under a basket*

1. The godly light of the believer provides light for others to come to Jesus Christ

*They put it on a lampstand & it gives light to all who are in the house*

John 8:12 – I am the Light of the world, he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life

1. **The believer lives in the selfishness of the world doing godly good deeds glorifying God 5:16**

*Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify you Father who is in heaven*

1. The godly good deeds of the believer are the source of light telling the gospel

Eph. 5:9 – for the fruit of Light consists in all goodness and righteousness & truth

Tit. 2:14 – who have Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed & to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds

**Good deeds reveal the gospel & glory of Jesus Christ in the believer**

1. The godly good deeds of believer’s reveal to unbelievers the Light of Christ

1 Pet. 2:12 – keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of Christ’s coming

Tit. 3:14 – our people must learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful

**The world sees the good deeds of believers and calls them “Christians”!**

 **Things to Remember & Do**

1. Let others see Jesus in you!
2. The unbelieving world needs the godly believer in the world
3. Let your light of good deeds shine in the world
4. Do not neglect to do good & to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God – Heb. 13:16

**To the glory and praise of His grace. Jesus is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**