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# Salt of the Earth III (Purifying Virtues of Godliness)

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Influencing The Culture

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## Salt of the Earth III (Purifying Virtues of Godliness)

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- I. Series: New Series Influencing the Culture
  - A. Subject: Salt of the Earth (The Savor of God; Balancing, Suppressing Enhancing)
  - B. Subject: Salt of the Earth II (The Godly Preservative; Purpose, Protection, Power)
- II. Homework: Study Matthew 5:13-16, Mark 9:47-50
  - A. What does it mean to Purify, and how does Salt do it?
  - B. What are the three Spiritual Virtues of our Salt of the Earth, and how are they used?
- III. Text
  - A. Matthew 5:<sup>13</sup> **Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men...**
  - B. Mark 9:47-50 (AV)<sup>47</sup> **And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: <sup>48</sup>Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. <sup>49</sup>For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.**
- IV. Subject: Influencing The Culture: Salt of the Earth III (Purifying Virtues of Godliness)
  - A. In this series on Influencing the Culture, our objective is to understand the power we've been giving to influence this world, our culture.
    - 1. Although we can't change people, we can influence their character, development, and behavior based on the power God has given us.
    - 2. The duality of our Christian role is that as the light of the world, they can see God, and as the Salt of the Earth, they can taste God.
  - B. Our Spiritual Salt operates just a Natural Salt
    - 1. It is a seasoning, a preservative, a disinfectant, and a ceremonial offering.
    - 2. Salt of the Earth I: The Savor of God; Balancing, Suppressing Enhancing
    - 3. Salt of the Earth II; The Godly Preservative
      - a. Sanctifying Them With Purpose (Salt dries up Cares/Lusts of the World)
      - b. Sanctifying Them With Protection (Salt dries up the Fears of the World)
      - c. Sanctifying Them With Power (Salt dries up the weakness of the World)
  - C. Today we want to look at Salt as a Disinfectant of Purifier
    - 1. Disinfectant is a Antiseptic, Sanitizer, Sterilizer, Decontaminator, and a Purifier
    - 2. It simply means to remove contaminants.
    - 3. Salt can be used in Water Purification: by adding a small amount of salt to turbid or dirty water causes the suspended dirt particles to flocculate (form into small clumps) and sink to the bottom, leaving clean water that can be decanted or strained from the dirt.
    - 4. Salt can be use Detoxification: By drinking a beneficial mixture of sea salt dissolved in water, a person is able to push waste through the body, release toxins out of the body, and improve digestion.
    - 5. Salt can be used in the Healing Process: Many of us remember our mom telling us to gargle with warm salt water to ease the pain a pulled tooth or mouth ulcers.
    - 6. Salt can be used as a Neutralizing Agent: When the body is too acidic, it produces an environment where life threatening diseases can take hold.
  - D. There are many advantages, assets, qualities, and benefits of Salt. Today we want to look at three of these Virtues as a Spiritual Purifier:

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1. To Power to Cleanse, to Promote Healing, and to Neutralize Acid
- E. Subject: Influencing The Culture: Salt of the Earth III (Purifying Virtues of Godliness)
  1. The Cleansing Virtue, the Healing Virtue, and the Neutralizing Virtue of God
- V. Cleansing Virtue of God (Detoxify)
  - A. Mark 9: <sup>47</sup> **And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:**
  - B. Godliness Purifies us through the process of Cleansings us.
    1. Salt cleanses two ways: Detoxification (Cleansing the body of toxins and waste) and Flocculate (Cleansing water by clumping the dirt to fall to the bottom)
    2. Likewise, Godliness Purifies through cleansing in two ways; Spiritually Detoxing the Church with the Word, and Spiritually Cleansing the World with the Church.
  - C. Both the Church and the World is Filthy and need to be Cleansed
    1. Isaiah 64:6 (AV)<sup>6</sup> But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.
    2. 1 John 5:19 (AV)<sup>19</sup> *And* we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.
    3. In our lesson text, Jesus says if your eye was so filthy that it would keep you from entering the Kingdom, then pluck it out!
  - D. The Cleansing Virtue of God Cleanses both the Church and the World
    1. Spiritual Detox: God cleanses the Church through the Word
      - a. Ephesians 5:25–27 (AV)<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; <sup>26</sup> That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup> That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
      - b. The Word of God spiritually detoxifies, cleansing us from sins of this world
      - c. John 15:3 (AV)<sup>3</sup> **Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.**
      - d. Psalm 119: <sup>11</sup> Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
      - e. Psalm 51: <sup>10</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
    2. Spiritual Cleanse: God cleanses the World through the Church
      - a. God spiritually detoxifies the church is so we can cleans the World
      - b. Matthew 28:19–20 (AV)<sup>19</sup> **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: <sup>20</sup> Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even unto the end of the world.* Amen.**
  - E. The Purifying Virtue of Godliness Cleanses Us
- VI. Healing Virtue of God
  - A. Mark 9: <sup>49</sup> **For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.**
  - B. Godliness also Purifies us through the process of Healing us.
    1. Salt gives us the process of osmosis that promotes healing by forcing liquids out of the body that are contaminated with bacteria.
    2. Salt also reduces pain through the dehydration of damaged cells, reducing swelling and thus is an anti-inflammatory for joint pain, arthritis, migraines.
  - C. Our world is filled with people, both in and out of the church that are sick and wounded.
    1. Luke 4:18 (AV)<sup>18</sup> **The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,**

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2. People are spiritually poor, broken hearted, held in spiritual and emotional captivity, blinded by the conditions of this world, and bruised and oppressed.

### D. The Healing Virtue of God Heals

#### 1. Spiritual Osmoses: God heals us of our Wounds from Sin

- a. Isaiah 53:<sup>5</sup> But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
- b. Because of the Sacrifice of Jesus, are wounds from Sin are Healed

#### 2. Spiritual Anti-Inflammatory: God heals us of our Conditions

- a. James 5:16 (AV)<sup>16</sup> Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
- b. Because of our Confession and Prayer, are Conditions are Healed

### E. The Purifying Virtue of Godliness Heals Us

## VII. Neutralizing Virtue of God

- A. Mark 9:<sup>50</sup> **Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.**

### B. The Purifying Virtues of Godliness...

1. Cleanses Us through the Word and the Church
2. Heals Us from our Wounds and Conditions
3. And Finally, it Neutralizes Us by Nullifying our Consequences

### C. The Consequences of this World leads to Destruction

1. 1 Peter 5:8 (AV)<sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
2. John 10:10 (AV)<sup>10</sup> **The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: ...**
3. Romans 6:23 (AV)<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin *is* death; ...
4. We live in a world filled with sin, corrupted by the lusts of the flesh, destined to destroy us with the consequences of death; and spiritual acid that is killing us.
5. James 1:<sup>14</sup> But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

### D. The Neutralizing Virtue of God Nullifies the Consequences of Sin

1. Just as Salt nullifies the acidic properties in our body that can kill us, Godliness nullifies the acidic properties of sin that want to destroy us.
2. Spiritual “Pepto Bismol, Pesid AC, Zantac, Nexium”
3. We must get to the **B-Clause of our Life** by Allowing God to Neutralize and Nullify the Consequences of this World. God has a **B-Clause for our Life!**
4. John 10:10 (AV)<sup>10</sup> **The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:**
  - a. **B-Clause: I am come that they might have life,... might have *it* more abundantly.**
5. Romans 6:23 (AV)<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin *is* death;
  - a. **B-Clause:** but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
6. Psalm 34:19 (AV)<sup>19</sup> Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous:
  - a. **B-Clause:** but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.
7. Psalm 30:5 (AV)<sup>5</sup> For his anger *endureth* but a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night,
  - a. **B-Clause:** but joy *cometh* in the morning.