

# *Salt of the Earth*

**THE BEATITUDES (13)**

1. Seeing the crowds, He went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him.
2. And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:
3. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

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**Matthew 5:1-4**

5. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
6. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
7. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
8. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
9. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

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**Matthew 5:5-9**

10. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
11. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account.
12. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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**Matthew 5:10-12**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

Therefore they are the demonstration that for those who have been born again, they are now a new creation in Christ. The Beatitudes are the mark, the distinctive character and new nature of those who are now in Christ. The Beatitudes reveal to us the perspective of what Christ's Kingdom citizens look like. These are the distinguishing marks of the true church, the Bride Jesus is returning for.

We are no longer conformed to this world, but are being transformed by the renewal of our mind.

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**Romans 12:2**

Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

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**Ephesians 4:24**

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

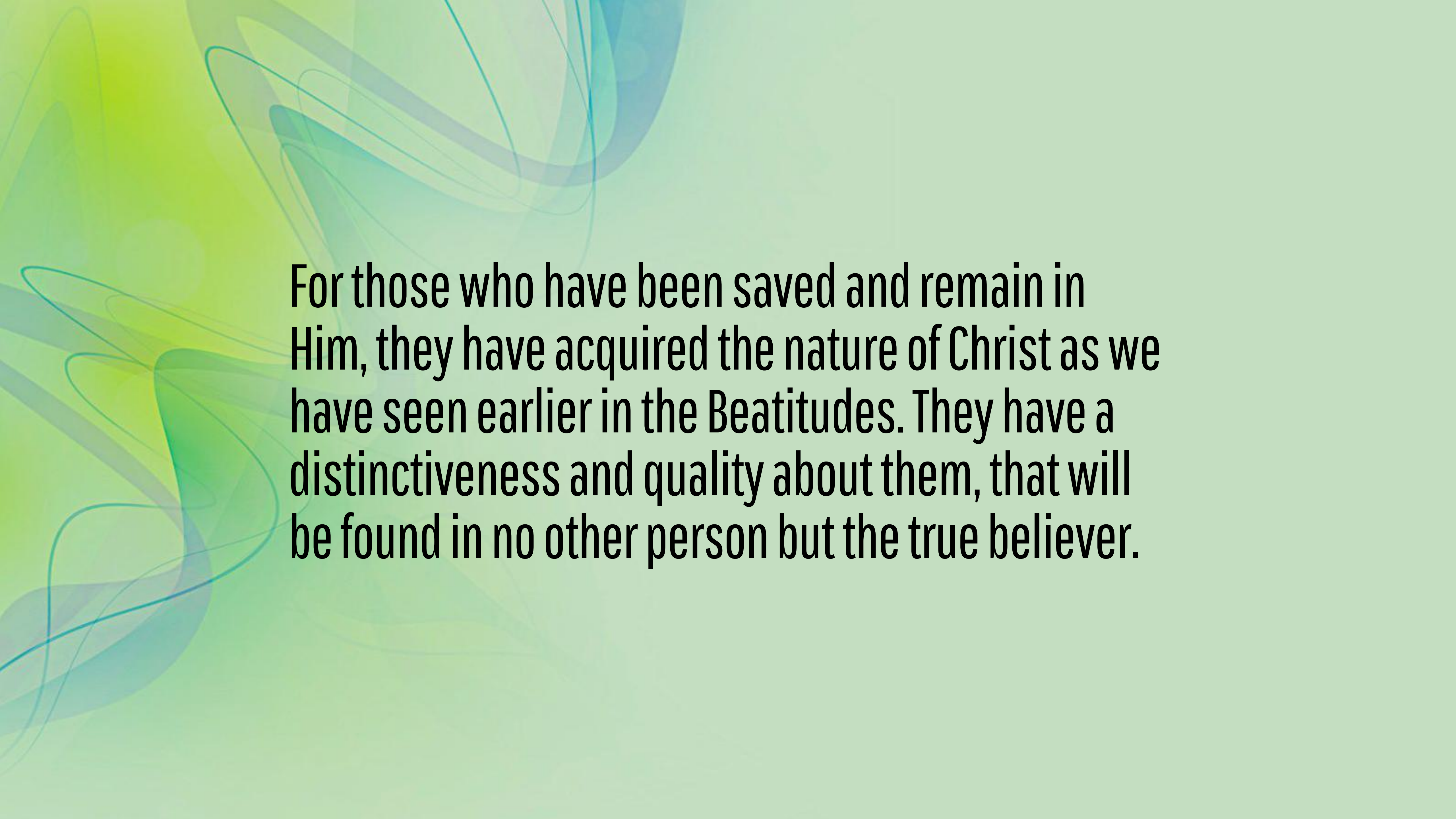
**Matthew 5:13**

You and you alone - Original Greek

Jesus, in effect, is saying:

You are the salt of the earth, you are highly valued and you have unique qualities found nowhere else in the world.

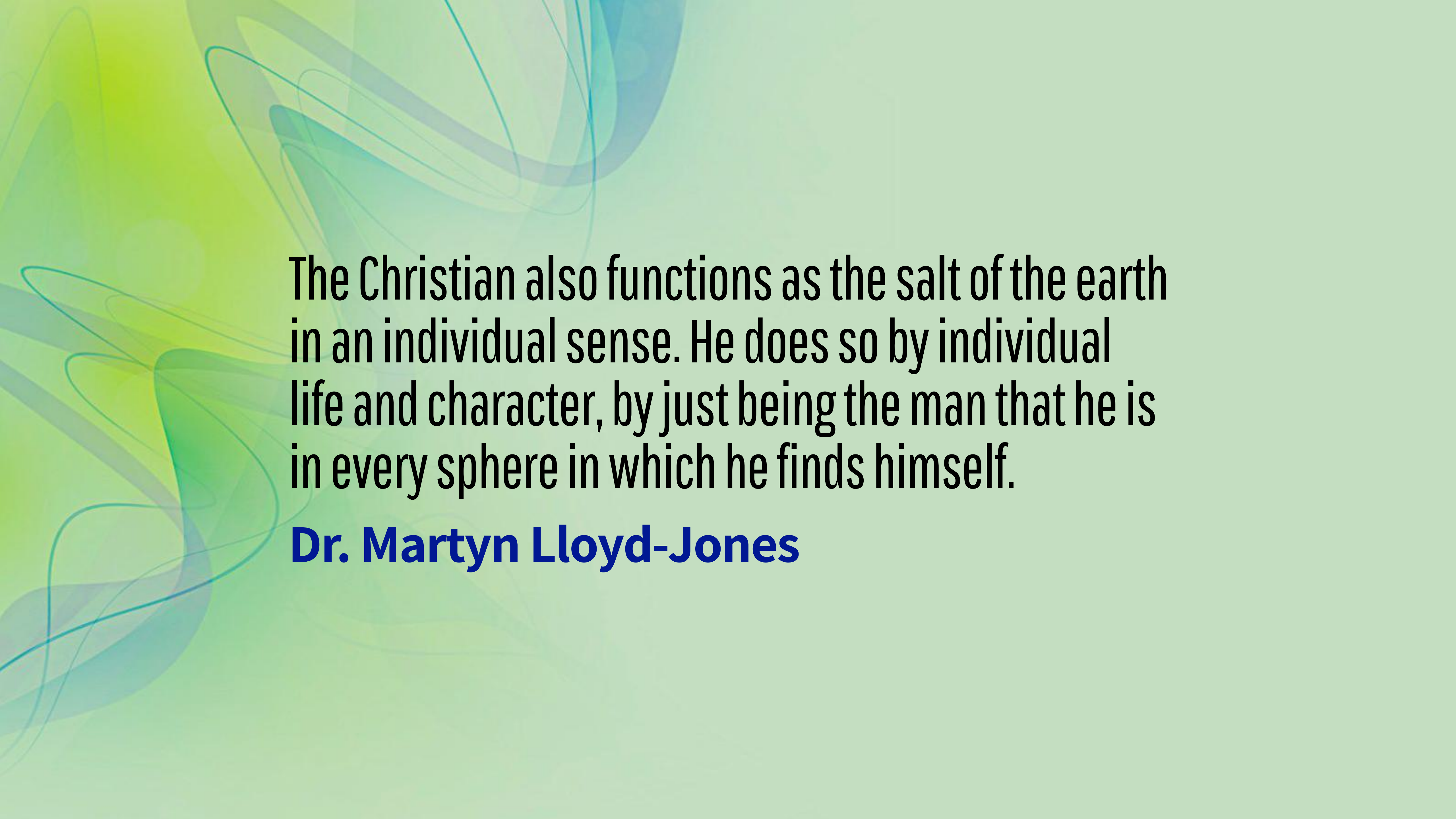
However, if you should lose your distinctiveness and the qualities I have described to you in the Beatitudes, then you are no longer different to those still in the world. And as such you will be rejected and trampled on under people's feet.



**For those who have been saved and remain in Him, they have acquired the nature of Christ as we have seen earlier in the Beatitudes. They have a distinctiveness and quality about them, that will be found in no other person but the true believer.**

**The effect of saltiness is in the life of a believer:**

- ▶ Salt as a preservative and antiseptic**
- ▶ Salt as a seasoning that creates thirst**
- ▶ Prevention of salt loss**



The Christian also functions as the salt of the earth in an individual sense. He does so by individual life and character, by just being the man that he is in every sphere in which he finds himself.

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For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

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**Ephesians 6:12**

He is already acting as salt, just by being a Christian man. Because of his life and character and general deportment, he is already controlling the evil that was manifesting itself, and he does so in every sphere and capacity.

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Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit  
within you, whom you have from God.

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**1 Corinthians 6:19**

The Holy Spirit will convict the world concerning  
sin and righteousness and judgment.

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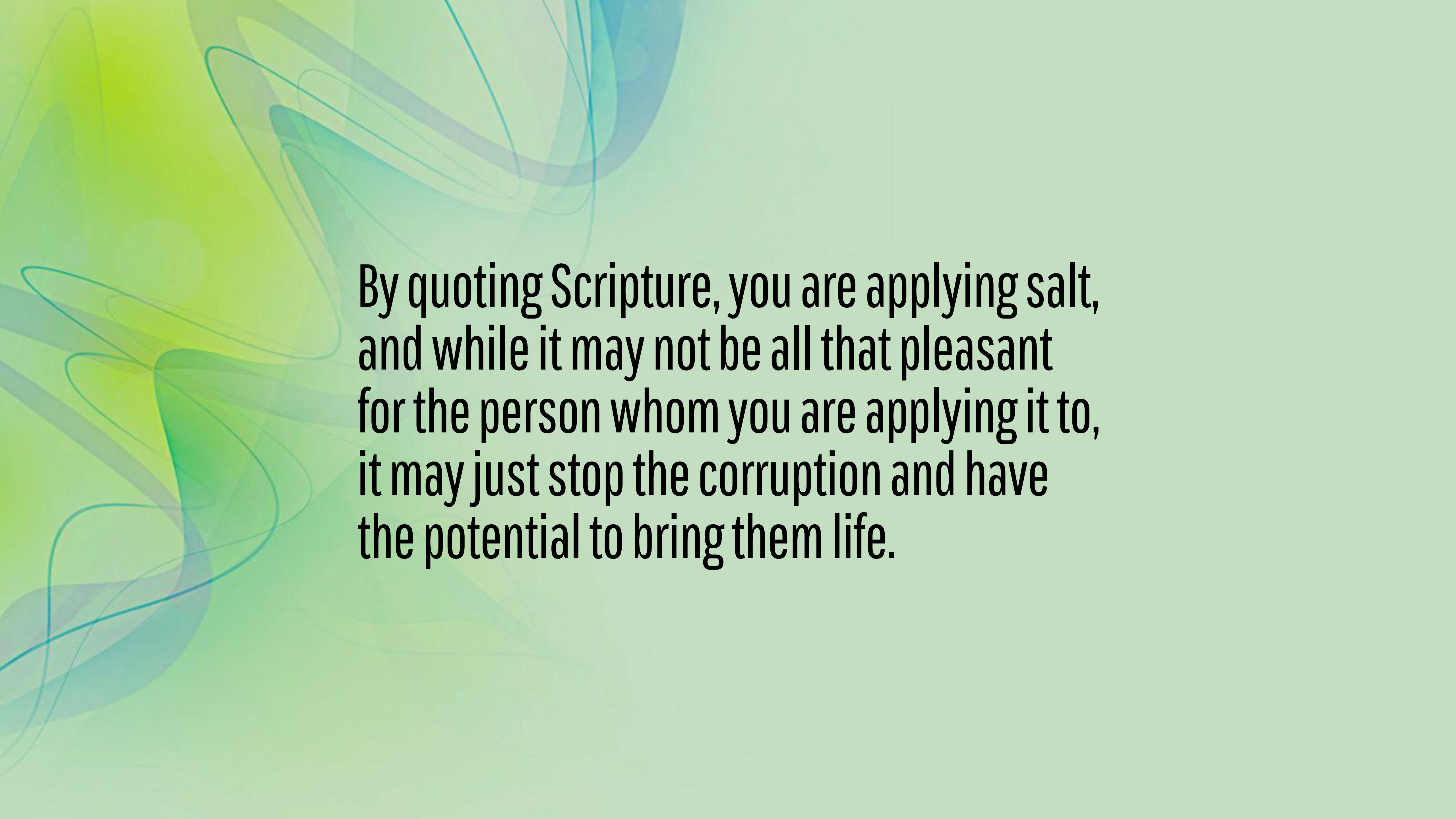
**John 16:8**

We do not strive to be the salt of the earth, we are the salt the earth. By abiding in Jesus, He will abide in us by the Holy Spirit. And the power of the Holy Spirit is made manifest to others by us being in a place of intimate relationship with Him. This is how we remain salty, by being on fire for the Lord.

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

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**Hebrews 4:12**



**By quoting Scripture, you are applying salt,  
and while it may not be all that pleasant  
for the person whom you are applying it to,  
it may just stop the corruption and have  
the potential to bring them life.**

Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in Him, and He will act.

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**Psalm 37:5**

Don't just commit what concerns you **MOST**, but commit **ALL** your ways, and how you do things to the Lord, hand everything over to the Lord and He will act on your behalf.

**The effect of saltiness is in the life of a believer:**

- ▶ Salt as a preservative and antiseptic**
- ▶ Salt as a seasoning that creates thirst**
- ▶ Prevention of salt loss**

When the world sees our saltiness & the righteousness of Christ within us, it will either cause them to run away, or the Lord will use it to draw people to Himself & they too may desire to receive this righteousness and be reconciled to God. When the world observes us, & sees us take a stand for truth, even when it costs us & sees us at peace in the midst of our trials & testings & sees the Lord's joy manifest within us, despite our circumstances, then those whom the Lord is drawing at that point in time may well desire to know about Jesus & experience the love & forgiveness of Christ. We create a thirst in other people for that same joy & in doing so will develop & create a thirst for that same relationship with Jesus & create a thirst for righteousness.

If anyone is thirsty, let him  
come to Me and drink.

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**John 7:37**

Go make disciples of all nations, baptising  
them in the name of the Father and of the  
Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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**Matthew 28:19**

**The effect of saltiness is in the life of a believer:**

- ▶ Salt as a preservative and antiseptic**
- ▶ Salt as a seasoning that creates thirst**
- ▶ Prevention of salt loss**

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

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**Romans 12:2**

Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world.

Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

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**James 4:4**

You [are like] unfaithful wives [having illicit love affairs with the world and breaking your marriage vow to God]! Do you not know that being the world's friend is being God's enemy? So whoever chooses to be a friend of the world takes his stand as an enemy of God.

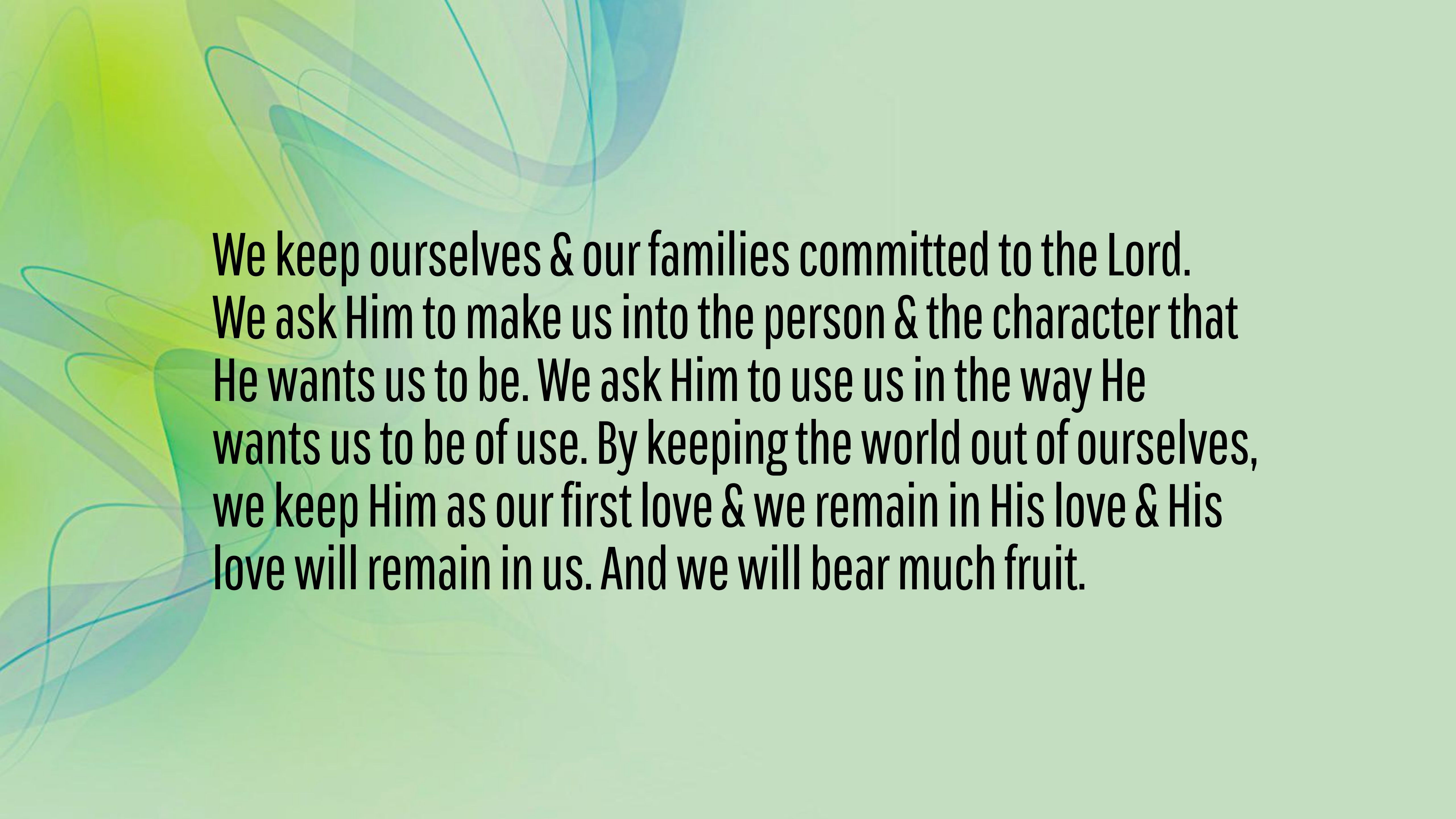
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**James 4:4** (Amplified Bible)

When we let a little of the world into our lives, then although we may have the appearance of salt, what remains is not useful. If we let our behaviour be influenced by the world & we start to act as the world does, then we grieve the Holy Spirit Who is within us. When we grieve the Holy Spirit, then He withdraws His presence from us. It is the Holy Spirit Who empowers us to live salty lives. Anytime we allow ourselves to react or behave as the world does, it dilutes the distinctive new nature of Christ within us & can render us unfit for use.

The Christian, is a man who is essentially different from everyone else. He is as different as the salt is from the meat into which it is rubbed. He is as different as the salt is from the wound in which it is put. The Christian is a separate, unique, outstanding kind of individual; there is to be in him something which marks him out, and which is obvious and clearly recognisable. Let every man, then, examine himself.

**Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones**



**We keep ourselves & our families committed to the Lord. We ask Him to make us into the person & the character that He wants us to be. We ask Him to use us in the way He wants us to be of use. By keeping the world out of ourselves, we keep Him as our first love & we remain in His love & His love will remain in us. And we will bear much fruit.**

When you bear much fruit, My  
Father is honoured and glorified,  
and you show and prove yourselves  
to be true followers of Mine.

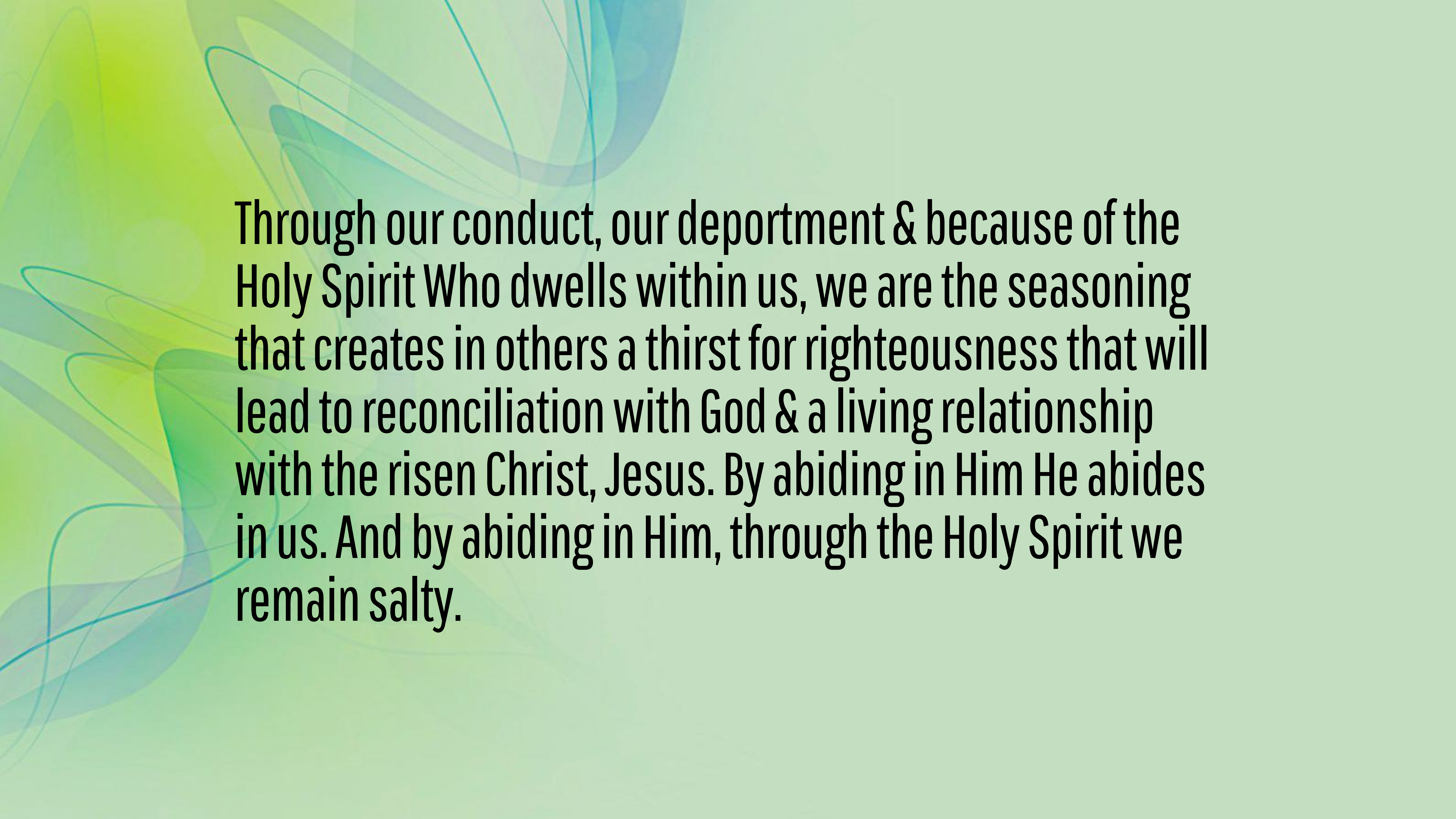
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**John 15:8**

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

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**Matthew 5:13**



Through our conduct, our deportment & because of the Holy Spirit Who dwells within us, we are the seasoning that creates in others a thirst for righteousness that will lead to reconciliation with God & a living relationship with the risen Christ, Jesus. By abiding in Him He abides in us. And by abiding in Him, through the Holy Spirit we remain salty.