

## **THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

### **Matthew 5:13-16**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- A. We quote the need to be “lights of the world”, and rightfully so.
  - 1. God always intended for His people to set the standard of life, Deut. 4:6-8.
  - 2. Today, we are to be lights in the world – setting that standard of holy living.
- B. But what do we mean when we say we are to be “lights of the world”?

#### **I. THE LIGHT OF DEVOTION TO THE SCRIPTURES.**

- A. Study and know it, 2 Peter 3:15-16; 2 Timothy 2:15.
- B. Test every belief and practice by it.
  - 1. Not to be led by conscience, feelings, or experience.
  - 2. Led by God’s Word, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 [thoroughly equipped].

#### **II. THE LIGHT OF CERTAINTY THAT SALVATION ONLY COMES THROUGH OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST.**

- A. Being good isn’t enough, Acts 10:1-2, 32-33, 43, 47-48.
- B. Being sincere isn’t enough, 1 Timothy 1:12-16.
- C. Believing isn’t enough, James 2:22-24 (19).
- D. Only through obedience, Romans 6:17-18.

#### **III. THE LIGHT OF INSISTENCE ON HOLINESS OF LIFE.**

- A. You can’t bring people to Christ by being like them.
  - 1. Philippians 2:15-16
  - 2. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18
- B. You can’t lower God’s standard. Titus 2:7-8; 1 Peter 2:12

#### **IV. THE LIGHT OF FAITHFULNESS IN PROCLAIMING THE WORD.**

- A. That’s the business we are in, Luke 19:10; Matthew 28:19-20.
- B. We all have plenty to do – we don’t work under a “clergy” system.

#### **V. THE LIGHT OF FIRMNESS OF TEACHING THE ONENESS OF THE CHURCH.**

- A. Ephesians 4:1-6
- B. Colossians 1:18

#### **VI. THE LIGHT OF FEARLESSNESS IN SPEAKING OUT AGAINST THE EVILS OF THE DAY.**

- A. Philippians 1:27-28
- B. 2 Timothy 1:7

#### **VII. THE LIGHT OF COURAGE IN STANDING FOR THE TRUTH.**

- A. Have we become too compromising and why?
  - 1. Hebrews 12:1-4