

## Losing Saltiness

Mark 9:50

Charlie Brackett

In this last verse of chapter nine the Lord tells us to have salt in ourselves. Listen to it. "Salt is good, but if salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another."

Jesus said a similar thing in His mountain sermon. We have the thought in Matthew 5:13. "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men." Christians are the salt of the earth. Their purpose is the salvation of mankind. By their lives and teaching they preserve those with whom they have contact.

Jesus said, "Salt is good, but if salt loses its flavor, how will you season it?" Last time we noted that we are salted by our own spirit of self-sacrifice, a spirit patterned after the Lord's. As we give up worldly affections, we salt our lives as a sweet sacrifice to God and improve our saltiness for the preservation of those whose lives we touch. It is imperative that a disciple of Christ not lose that saltiness.

If our saltiness is lost, of what use are we? Jesus reminds us that when salt loses the peculiar chemical property which makes it salty, it is useless. There is no way to regain that property. You cannot restore it with another more powerful salt. You cannot treat it with some other chemical. It is good for nothing! We also, as the salt of the earth, will be good for nothing but to be thrown out if we fail in the great cause of saving souls.

Next time we will consider how it is we can lose our saltiness?