

What The World Needs Now

We live in a needy world. People who are hurting because of sorrow, people are caught in the bondage of sin, people are living in guilt, and people have no hope for going to Heaven. So what does the world need?

There was a song that was popular back in 1965 that said, "What the world needs now, is love, sweet love." This is nice sentiment, and while sometimes love does help, it does not solve society's problems. What the world does need is salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16). Salt is a preservative and a spice. The world needs some sort of salt to slow down the rot and decay of sin and it needs salt to give it the flavor of hope, forgiveness and righteousness. Light allows people to see and function. This world is dark with sin and sorrow. We need light to help it to see clearly and to give it hope.

There is a privilege of being salt and light. If you are a Christian, you are a disciple or a follower. You are salt and light and you can help slow down the rot and decay of this whole world by your righteous living. Non-Christians will also see your level of commitment to Christ, your compassion, your love for people, your righteous living as a refreshing spice and welcome illumination to an otherwise drab existence. Jesus has given you two privileges. As salt He allows you to make people thirsty for Christ. As light He allows you to beam Christ to the world that needs Him.

There is also a problem with being salt and light. Technically, salt does not lose its saltiness. However, salt in the days of Jesus was not always pure salt. The salt was diluted with other substances and lost its saltiness. If we our lives are diluted with the affairs of this world we will lose our saltiness for Christ (1 John 2:15-17). Furthermore, light is designed to shine. At night when the lamps were lit in the homes in Palestine, the city was visible because they were often situated on hills. Christians all too often hide their light by acting like the world. The world will not want what you have if you appear to be just like them.

Finally, we must realize the priority of being salt and light. I have found that all of us have priorities. When our priorities are right, we will want to be salty and live righteous lives. You will make people want what you have. When our priorities are right, we will want our lights to shine. Our lights will shine as the scriptures produce love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and self control in us.

Can you be salt and light? You must be willing to fulfill God's expectations by following His commands. Would the Lord be pleased with you in your current example of righteousness and faithfulness?

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