

HAVING A DISTINCT FLAVOR IN A TASTELESS WORLD

Against the Grain – Part 1 of 8

(A study of the Sermon on the Mount)

Matthew 5:13-16

April 11, 2010

“You are like salt for everyone on earth. But if salt no longer tastes like salt, how can it make food salty? All it is good for is to be thrown out and walked on.”

■ Matt. 5:13 CEV

3 Distinct Flavors We Must Not Lose:

1. We must choose to (serve) others instead of living for ourselves.

“But Jesus called the disciples together and said, ‘You know that foreign rulers like to order their people around. And their great leaders have full power over everyone they rule. But don’t act like them. If you want to be great, you must be the servant of all the others. And if you want to be first, you must be the slave of the rest. The Son of Man did not come to be a slave master, but a slave who will give his life to rescue many.’” – Matthew 20:25-28 CEV

2. We must choose to (submit) control of our lives to God instead of seeking to keep control ourselves.

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.” – 1 Peter 5:6-7

3. We must (share) the gospel with others every chance we are given.

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do men light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.” – Matthew 5:14-15

“But make sure in your hearts that Christ is Lord. Always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you about the hope you have. Be ready to give the reason for it. But do it gently and with respect.” – 1 Peter 3:15 NIrV