



BLESSING OF PRIVILEGE - MATTHEW 5:13-16

Since Jesus Came Into My Heart

What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought
Since Jesus came into my heart;
I have light in my soul for which long I have sought,
Since Jesus came into my heart.

Since Jesus came into my heart,
Since Jesus came into my heart;
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,
Since Jesus came into my heart

What a joy is ours to know Jesus as our Savior

- Our sin debt has been blotted out
- We have been brought close to God by adoption into His family
- We are co-heirs by decree of the King Himself with Christ Jesus of everything that is good and glorious throughout eternity, never to fade
- We have Jesus' assurance he returns for us

What a joy is ours to know Jesus as our Savior

- Until then, we know how to live blessed in the here and now – the Beatitudes
- But He has also given our lives purpose and meaning

Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

- 13 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

- 14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people 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.
- 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

Blessed Assurance

- We have upon our lives the “Blessing of Privilege”
- It’s a privilege to know Jesus
- It’s a privilege to know how to live
- It’s a privilege to have a place and purpose working for the King

Blessed Assurance

- He has given us such a rich and purposeful meaning that extend throughout eternity
- And He longs to do the same in the lives of others who currently have not hope

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- Please notice, Jesus did not say, “You are to become salt, or you are becoming salt”
- What were His words? – “You are the salt of the earth.”
- Upon receiving Jesus as Savior, you already have a story of what God has done in your life
- Your and your story are integral to Plan of God

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- It is the telling and living your story that allows the Holy Spirit to provide saltlike attributes to your world and culture
- It is living out the Beatitudes that allows a lost world to see the difference in you and those living in darkness

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- The first thing the enemy will say to you is
 - “Your story does not matter.”
 - “You don’t have all the answers so be quiet and not look foolish.”
 - “Give it some time, it will fade.”
 - “No one really cares anyway.”

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- Do you see what He is doing?
 - He is stripping your Hallelujah away
 - He is diminishing the glory God in your life, in your eyes and those looking in
 - He is telling you to keep your salt in the shaker

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- How many times has that steak, potatoes, or eggs tasted better because of salt left in the shaker?
- What happens to salt that is never used in the shaker?

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- Jesus told us in verse **13 AMP**, “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has lost its taste (*purpose or becomes foolish*), how can it be made salty? It is no longer good for anything, but to be thrown out and walked on by people [*when the walkways are wet and slippery*].”

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- And this is exactly what the world is doing to the Gospel of Jesus today, mostly because Christians are leaving their salt in their saltshaker.

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- Salt was used as a preservative and a flavor enhancer in the culture of Jesus' time
- It was limited and very valuable
- Salt preserved the meat and slowed the decay
- Solder were paid with salt at times
- A soldier not carrying out his duties was, "*not worth his salt*"

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- It must physically touch the object to perform its purpose
- To be effective it must be involved where we work and where we live
- In how you work and how you manage those who for under you
- In your homes and families

Without you the pleasing, protecting nature of God would never be witnessed

- **Ecclesiastes 11:6 NIV** Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let your hands not be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well.

Without your light the truth from God would never be illuminated in hearts and minds of hopeless individuals given over to the darkness of sin

- Not far from the hill Jesus was teaching at was the city Saphet. It stood on a very eminent and conspicuous mountain, and was seen far and near

Without your light the truth from God would never be illuminated in hearts and minds of hopeless individuals given over to the darkness of sin

- Jesus said in verse 14, “You are the light of the world”
- You are My light I’m sending into a very dark world to know I am here
- Spurgeon, “Poor world, poor world, it is dark and gropes in midnight, and it cannot get light except it received it through us.”

Without your light the truth from God would never be illuminated in hearts and minds of hopeless individuals given over to the darkness of sin

- What is the purpose of light?
- So, we can see with distinction or being able to see differences
- To be able to see clearly with understanding

Without your light the truth from God would never be illuminated in hearts and minds of hopeless individuals given over to the darkness of sin

- If Christianity imitates the darkness, we have nothing to show or offer the world
- We can never affect the world for Jesus by becoming like the world

Without your light the truth from God would never be illuminated in hearts and minds of hopeless individuals given over to the darkness of sin

- This title, “Light of Truth or Light of the World”, was given by Jews to certain eminent Rabbis
- They spoke of them as the lights of the world
- It must have sounded strange to hear the same title applied to bronzed-faced and hard-handed peasants and fishermen

Without you being God's salt and light His Kingdom is just a little bit dimmer

- Did the "*not me*" person live in your home?
 - Who made this mess – Answer?
 - Who broke this? – Answer?
 - Who took my tools and didn't bring them back? – Answer?
- This same thinking can enter the church, "Who is the salt and light of the Kingdom? Not me."

Without you being God's salt and light His Kingdom is just a little bit dimmer

- **Matthew 4:16 NIV** the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”
 - What did they see?
 - They saw the light of truth in the face of Jesus Christ
 - Jesus is not physically here now but He would be limited even if He was by being physical

Without you being God's salt and light His Kingdom is just a little bit dimmer

- Hear what He is saying, "You be Jesus in this dark, lonely, lost world"
- We don't need another Savior, but we do need hands, feet and hearts that are shining out the love of Christ
- We need those who know and have been changed to be living out the Beatitudes outside of the church, in your homes, wherever life has you

Without you being God's salt and light His Kingdom is just a little bit dimmer

- Spurgeon, "Christ never contemplated the production of secret Christians-Christians whose virtues were never on display."
- You can do this even in hostile countries or work areas
- By living out the Beatitudes and letting the Holy Spirit work on the minds and passions of the lost

Without you being God's salt and light His Kingdom is just a little bit dimmer

- Verse **16 NIV**, “That they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
- Good works are
 - How you live your lives
 - How you treat your family and those in authority over you

Without you being God's salt and light His Kingdom is just a little bit dimmer

- Verse **16 NIV**, “That they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
- Good works are
 - Where they find you
 - Living out the Beatitudes purposely

Without you being God's salt and light His Kingdom is just a little bit dimmer

- The purpose is never about us, but so others can see the God behind your lives and glorify Him
- Spurgeon, "May they see grace in us and God in us, and cry, "What a Father these people must have."

Jesus gave us a great complement and responsibility when he said, “we are the light of the world.”

- **John 8:12 NIV**, When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”
- Jesus claimed that title for Himself when He walked this earth
- Now He transfers that title to you, “You are the light of the world.”

Jesus gave us a great complement and responsibility when he said, “we are the light of the world.”

- Spurgeon, “Christ Jesus brought the light of Deity into the poor lantern of our humanity, and then set it upon a candlestick of his church that the whole house of the world might be lit up by it”
- Notice also, this is the first time God Almighty has been called our Father, “That they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

The history of the family is all about each person serving each other in the family unit for the betterment of the family

- In our culture today it is all about the individual and not the family whole
 - It is out of balance when it is all about the children
 - They are growing up think it is all about them and they do not know how to serve each other

The history of the family is all about each person serving each other in the family unit for the betterment of the family

- We have the privilege of having a loving Heavenly Father and family
- We have the privilege of knowing His truth in this dark and lonely world
- We have the privilege taking our candle and standing with other Christian candles so the world can see Him



BLESSING OF PRIVILEGE - MATTHEW 5:13-16