

March 18<sup>th</sup> 2018

## Your Christianity: Rational or Irrational?

Matthew 5:13-16

### Two r \_\_\_\_\_ facts about a believer's purpose (13a, 14a)

●Fact #1 – Believers are the s \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth (13a)

1. The metaphor explained
  - a. Jesus is referring to a particular usage of salt - to make food t \_\_\_\_\_ better
  - b. The earth represents u \_\_\_\_\_
2. The metaphor applied
  - a. How believers live among the world should never leave a bad taste in the world's mouths
  - b. How believers live should add s \_\_\_\_\_ to their life (being merciful, humble, helpful, interested in their good)

●Facts #2 – Believers are the l \_\_\_\_\_ of the world (14a)

1. The metaphor explained
  - a. Jesus is referring to a particular usage of light – so that people can s \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The world represents u \_\_\_\_\_
2. The metaphor applied
  - a. The world is in d \_\_\_\_\_ because of their sin (Jn 3:19)
  - b. By living out our relationship to Christ, people may realize that they are in sin and need Christ.

### Two r \_\_\_\_\_ statements about a believer's actions (13b, 14b)

●Ridiculous statement #1 – if salt becomes \_\_\_\_\_, how can it be made to salt anything?

1. The metaphor explained
  - a. The group of words (*loses its taste, flavor, saltiness*) is translated by a single Greek word where we get our word m \_\_\_\_\_ which is usually translated as foolish (acting contrary to reason)
  - b. If salt were to act contrary, it would not salt anything and would be good for n \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. useless)
2. The metaphor applied
  - a. Jesus saved us from s \_\_\_\_\_ (it killed us spiritually and oppressed us)
  - b. It would be f \_\_\_\_\_ (irrational) for Christians to be in harmony with sin.

●Ridiculous statement #2 – a city on a hill cannot be h \_\_\_\_\_

- a. The metaphor explained – a city which is built on a hill is designed to be s \_\_\_\_\_

March 18<sup>th</sup> 2018

- b. The metaphor applied – we are not to keep our Christianity (our relationship to Christ) to o\_\_\_\_\_. Our Christianity should be evident.

**One r\_\_\_\_\_ conclusion (16)**

●One more metaphor – lighting a lamp

1. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a b\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The container was one that held g\_\_\_\_\_ and so did not have any spaces in it for light to pass through
  - b. This action would b\_\_\_\_\_ the light
2. Everyone lights a lamp and puts it on a stand so that people in the h\_\_\_\_\_ can see.

●The metaphor applied - *Let your light shine before people like this: that they may see your good works and glorify your heavenly Father.*

1. Light refers to g\_\_\_\_\_ which is simply doing what God w\_\_\_\_\_
2. Examples of good works
  - a. H\_\_\_\_\_ someone because God wants me to
  - b. P\_\_\_\_\_ for someone because God wants me to
  - c. Do g\_\_\_\_\_ to someone because God wants me to
  - d. W\_\_\_\_\_ to someone because God wants me to
  - e. Unselfishly l\_\_\_\_\_ my fellow believer.
3. The manner in which we do good works must put the focus on G\_\_\_\_\_ so that He is glorified, not us.

**Conclusion:**

- Irrational Christianity is acting contrary to the way that God has designed you (that's called s\_\_\_\_\_ or disobedience)
  - Rational Christianity is acting in accordance to the way that God has designed you (that's called being s\_\_\_\_\_ and l\_\_\_\_\_)
1. Salt - Do your actions add spice to the life of the unbelievers around you?
  2. Light - Do your actions point people to the Lord?