

Sermon on the Mount – Notes  
Sunday October 14, 2018

You are the light of the world

Matthew 5:14-16

Jesus is directing this statement to those who he just described in verses 3-11

We identified that the word “you” is referring to those disciples who came up the mountain to listen closely to Jesus and who are described in the beatitudes listed in v3-10

Our focus is on “Light” of the world

Literally light of the “system”

### **Light**

- Physical light – “Let there be light” – creation of the physical
  - How is physical light beneficial?
- Spiritual Light – Jesus uses physical light as a metaphor to help us understand spiritual light.
- We can understand what it means to walk in darkness, how we can easily stumble – etc.
- To understand what Jesus is teaching about spiritual light we need to take a deeper look at the bible says about light and how light relates to Jesus, then to believers

### **Jesus – The Light of the world**

- John 8:12 – Jesus declares himself as the light of the world
- He also clarifies that it is “whoever follows me” that has the light of life
- John 14:6 – Jesus declares himself as the exclusive “way, truth and life”
- Jesus is the exclusive source of all spiritual light

### **Jesus – The Light of the world – scripture references**

- Isaiah 42:6 – Isaiah describes Christ as the light to the nations
- John 1:4-9 – describes Jesus as the true light
- John 3:19-21 – Jesus is the light that exposes sin
- John 8:12 – Jesus declares himself light of the world
- John 9:5 – Jesus is the light now, implies we will be the light after his ascension
- John 12:35-36 – Jesus instructs to believe in (Him) the Light – that we may become sons of Light
- John 12:46 – Jesus declares the purpose for His coming into the world as Light
- 1 John 1:5-7 – God is light, we have fellowship if we walk in the light
- Rev 22:4-5 – ultimately the Lord God will be our light forever and ever.

### **Believers are the light of the world**

- Jesus is the source of our light
- The Word “in us” illuminates our path i.e. Psalm 119:105
- Phil 2:14-15 “Shine as lights” literally – luminaries
- 2 Cor 4-6 “...has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge...”
  - **The expression “light of the knowledge” is literally – illumination toward knowledge.** Meaning our hearts have the illuminating light of Jesus – giving us the benefits of both inner and outer illumination
- Eph 5:8 – children of light
- Acts 13:47 – Paul a representative of Christ as a light to the gentiles

### **Believers are ambassadors – representatives of Christ – light of the world**

- **2 Cor 5:18** – we are given the ministry of reconciliation
- **2 Cor 5:19** – we are given the message of reconciliation
- **2 Cor 5:20** – we are declared ambassadors for Christ

#### **am·bas·sa·dor**

Noun - an accredited diplomat sent by a country as its official representative to a foreign country.

### **As Ambassadors – Believers Works**

- **John 14:12** – greater works than these
- **Because I am going to the father**
  - **Not that a man will do greater works – Jesus will work through His church**
  - **He will send the Holy Spirit**
  - **John 16:8** “*And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment*”

### **Light of the world – our role**

- **Reveal Truth – model truth – good works**
- **Expose sin**
- **Warn of judgment**
- **Ministry of reconciliation**
- **Ambassadors**

**Do you see yourself as an ambassador for Christ?**

**In what ways can you improve your effectiveness as Christ’s ambassador?**