

The first sermon by Jesus recorded in the Bible begins with a list of what we know as “Beatitudes.” This is properly named, for the Webster’s 1828 dictionary defines the word “beatitude” as “blessedness; felicity of the highest kind; consummate bliss; used of the joys of heaven.” So if ever you should find a person who is miserable, you can share with them the description of Matthew 5:3-11. You’ll notice that Jesus describes “those” who are happy in verses 3-10, but in verse 11, suddenly he describes that “you” are happy when you are persecuted. To me this is significant to the very significant to verse 13, because I believe that Jesus is not only telling us to rejoice under persecution, but also explaining _____ you are persecuted.

Often in years past, I explained that it is important to know _____ before knowing _____ to pursue a course or plan. I think that it is important that we understand *why* we need revival before we understand *how*, because it will go in one ear and out the other just as simply as telling a child how to brush his teeth before explaining why he needs to do it! If anyone is to suffer persecution, and on top of that, **REJOICE** when it happens, it is important to understand *why* they will face it. And God describes _____ in verse 13-16 as _____ and _____. Today, we’re just going to focus on *salt*.

I see three things in verse 13 about what salt does. When someone says, “You’re a chip off of the old block!” and you have no idea what that means, you want to know what it means. Jesus calls you salt, so let’s find out what that means:

Tonight we will learn how that salt is a _____. In future Sunday Evenings, we will discover how that salt is also has a _____, and can also be _____.

There are three things that make us a *preserving sustainer*.

1. Our Lives should be a _____

▪ John 4
 ▪ John 7:37, “...If any man thirst, let him _____ and drink.”

▪ “You can bring a horse to water, but you can’t make him _____—But you can _____ and run him hard!”



2. Our Lives should be a _____

▪ John 1:14, “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of _____ and _____.”

▪ Eph 4:15, “But speaking the _____ in _____, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:”

▪ John 7:38-39, “He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of _____. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive...”

3. Our Lives should reveal _____

▪ Jeremiah 50:38, “A drought is upon her waters; and they shall be dried up: for it is a land of graven images, and they are mad upon their _____.”

▪ Psalm 84:6, “Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a _____; the rain also filleth the pools.”—The word for “pools” in this verse is _____.

▪ Isaiah 35:6, “Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and _____.”

▪ Isaiah 41:18, “I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a _____, and the dry land springs of water.”

▪ 2 Corinthians 7:5-7
 ✓ _____ encouraged Paul

