

SESSION VII

THE PASTOR AS SHEPHERD— THE SERMON'S PREPARATION

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)

There are three major classifications of sermons

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Every sermon should have the following parts.

1. The _____ • Tell them what you're going to tell them.

2. The _____ (or explanation) • Tell them.

3. The _____ • Tell them you told them.

Every sermon should have a _____.

If you don't have a proposition, you do not have a _____!

The Principles of Sermon Preparation:

I. Choose the _____.

A good expositor should be aware of two books:

Number one is the book of God's _____, and the other is the book of human _____.

II. Analyze the _____.

Use your tools:

- Word studies
- Commentaries
- Sermons
- Bible Atlas
- Concordance

III. Prayerfully Select a _____ from the Passage.

1. Be _____.

What? So What? Now What?

How to get attention. Preach about:

- Things you _____
- Things you _____
- Things that affect your _____

2. Be _____.

“Man is not saved by what he gives up, but by what he _____.”

3. Be _____.

“Preach to meet _____.”

4. Be _____.

“Good preaching is not just to _____, it is to _____.”

“The Bible was not given to increase our _____, but to change our _____.” —*D. L. Moody*

5. Be _____.

6. Be _____.

“You really don’t understand something unless you can communicate it in a _____ way.” —*Albert Einstein*

7. Be _____.

IV. Gather Your _____.

Ask The Discovery Questions:

- Who
- When
- What
- Why
- Wherefore

Is there...

- a _____ to learn?
- a _____ to obey?
- a _____ to avoid?
- a _____ to enjoy?
- a new _____ to carry with me?

File things by _____, by _____, by _____,
and by _____.

V. Rework Your _____ and Polish It.

Put verbs in your outline.

VI. Write Your _____ and _____ in That Order.

VII. You Are Ready to _____ Your Sermon.

There are three kinds of sermons:

1. Those you can listen to.
2. Those you can't listen to.
3. Those you must listen to.

Make yours a “must listen to” sermon.

VIII. Make Full _____ or a Full _____.

SAMPLE SERMON—OUTLINE

DISC 5, SESSION VII—

PART 2, THE SERMON PREPARATION

This sample sermon, as preached by Adrian Rogers, is an example to be used for study. This page gives the outline, including the sermon's four main points, along with the three subpoints of each main point. The following 12 pages contain the actual sermon notes that Adrian Rogers prepared and used when he preached this sermon.

The video of this sermon is also included on Disc 5. We recommend that you watch the video with the actual notes in front of you.

HOW TO BE A FULLY COMMITTED DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

Luke 14:25-35

I. Disciples Must Worship at Any Cost

Luke 14:26-27: "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple."

1. At the cost of personal relationships.
2. At the cost of personal reputation.
3. At the cost of personal realization.

II. Disciples Must Work at Any Cost

Luke 14:28-30: "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish."

1. The life we build must be spiritually conceived.
2. Your life should be sacrificially constructed.
3. Your tower should be steadfastly completed.

III. Disciples Must War at Any Cost

Luke 14:31-32: “Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.”

1. Jesus wants warriors who are not cowards.
2. Jesus wants warriors who are not compromisers.
3. Jesus wants warriors who are not cautious.

IV. Disciples Must Witness at Any Cost

Luke 14:34-35: “Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

1. Salt speaks of witness and testimony.
2. A true disciple will be like salt. What does salt do?
 - A. Salt preserves.
 - B. Salt flavors.
 - C. Salt heals.
 - D. Salt burns.
 - E. Salt penetrates.
3. Salt however, may lose its potency.

Conclusion

**HOW TO BE A FULLY COMMITTED DISCIPLE
OF JESUS CHRIST**

INTRODUCTION

1. A DISCIPLE IS SOMEONE WHO LEARNS FROM HIS MASTER. THE WORD "DISCIPLE" MEANS LEARNER. WHEN WE LEARN FROM OUR TEACHER, THEN WE WILL BE LIKE OUR TEACHER. JESUS' COMMANDS CAN BE SUMMED UP IN TWO PHRASES, "COME UNTO ME," AND "COME AFTER ME."

2. WE SING, "IT PAYS TO SERVE JESUS, IT PAYS EVERY DAY." AND IT DOES. MAY I ALSO SAY THAT IT COSTS TO SERVE JESUS, IT COSTS EVERY DAY, IT COSTS EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

SALVATION IS FREE BUT DISCIPLESHIP COSTS. THE CURSE OF TODAY'S CHRISTIANITY IS THIS – WE HAVE MADE DISCIPLESHIP TOO EASY. WE HAVE AN EASY, FLABBY, AIR CONDITIONED, UPHOLSTERED FAITH.

3. I HOPE THAT THE MENTION OF COST DOESN'T SCARE YOU OFF. IT COSTS, BUT IT IS WELL WORTH IT. "THE BITTERNESS OF POOR QUALITY LINGERS LONG AFTER THE SWEETNESS OF CHEAP PRICE HAS BEEN FORGOTTEN."

4. GREAT CROWDS WERE FOLLOWING JESUS. JESUS DID NOT THROW OUT BAIT TO GET FOLLOWERS, HOWEVER. HE DID NOT DO SENSATIONAL MIRACLES OR FLATTER THE CROWDS. THERE WAS NO FINE PRINT IN THE CONTRACT. AS A MATTER OF FACT, HE THINNED OUT THE CROWDS.

LUKE 14:25

AND THERE WENT GREAT MULTITUDES WITH HIM: AND HE TURNED, AND SAID UNTO THEM,

5. WHEN YOU COME TO BE A DISCIPLE, YOU NEED TO COME WITH YOUR EYES WIDE OPEN. YOU ARE CALLED NOT TO SHARE HIS POPULARITY BUT HIS UNPOPULARITY.

HEBREWS 13:13

LET US GO FORTH THEREFORE UNTO HIM WITHOUT THE CAMP, BEARING HIS REPROACH.

6. TO BE A FOLLOWER OF JESUS MAY NOT BRING YOU MEDALS. IT MAY BRING YOU SCARS.

7. GARIBALDI SET OUT TO LIBERATE ITALY. HE SAW A GROUP OF YOUNG MEN ON THE STREET CORNER AND ASKED THEM TO FOLLOW HIM.

“WHAT DO YOU OFFER?” “OFFER? I OFFER YOU HARDSHIP, HUNGER, RAGS, THIRST, SLEEPLESS NIGHTS, FOOT SORES AND LONG MARCHES, PRIVATIONS INNUMERABLE; AND VICTORY IN THE NOBLEST CAUSE THAT EVER ASKED YOU.” THEY FOLLOWED HIM TO VICTORY.

8. WHAT IS THE COST OF TRUE DISCIPLESHIP?

I. DISCIPLES MUST WORSHIP AT ANY COST**LUKE 14:26-27**

IF ANY MAN COME TO ME, AND HATE NOT HIS FATHER, AND MOTHER, AND WIFE, AND CHILDREN, AND BRETHERN, AND SISTERS, YEA, AND HIS OWN LIFE ALSO, HE CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE. [27] AND WHOSOEVER DOTH NOT BEAR HIS CROSS, AND COME AFTER ME, CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE.

1. AT THE COST OF PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS. “HATE NOT HIS FATHER ...”

THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE ARE NOT TO LOVE OUR PARENTS. JESUS WOULD NEVER CAUSE US TO BREAK THE COMMANDMENT THAT TELLS US TO HONOR FATHER AND MOTHER.

TO LOVE JESUS CAUSES US TRULY TO LOVE OTHERS MORE.

THIS WORD "HATE" AS IT IS USED BY JESUS MEANS TO MAKE A CLEAR CHOICE.

MATTHEW 6:24

NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS: FOR EITHER HE WILL HATE THE ONE, AND LOVE THE OTHER; OR ELSE HE WILL HOLD TO THE ONE, AND DESPISE THE OTHER. YE CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON.

JESUS MUST COME BEFORE ALL HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS. HE DEMANDS AND DESERVES UNRIVALED LOVE.

MATTHEW 10:37-38

HE THAT LOVETH FATHER OR MOTHER MORE THAN ME IS NOT WORTHY OF ME: AND HE THAT LOVETH SON OR DAUGHTER MORE THAN ME IS NOT WORTHY OF ME. [38] AND HE THAT TAKETH NOT HIS CROSS, AND FOLLOWETH AFTER ME, IS NOT WORTHY OF ME.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU MUST MAKE A CHOICE. THOSE OF US WHO PUT OUR CHILDREN ON AIRPLANES TO LIVE ON FOREIGN SOIL TO PREACH THE GOSPEL KNOW SOMETHING OF THIS.

2. AT THE COST OF PERSONAL REPUTATION. "HIS OWN LIFE."

THIS IS NOT TALKING ABOUT SELF-DENIAL BUT DENIAL OF SELF. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE. YOU CAN DENY YOURSELF THINGS WITHOUT DENYING YOURSELF.

PETER FORSOOK HIS NETS LONG BEFORE HE FORSOOK HIMSELF.

CHURCHES TODAY HAVE BECOME SELF-SERVICE CAFETERIA LINES. SELF-ESTEEM SEEMS TO BE THE MAIN GOAL. WE ARE TOLD HOW TO BE FULFILLED. THE FLESH IS PROMISED PLEASURES, PRIDE AND GLORY.

IN A MOMENT JESUS IS GOING TO TALK ABOUT TAKING UP A CROSS. A CROSS IS A SIGN OF SHAME AND REPROACH.

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LUKE 14:25-35

WHAT IF YOU SAW A PERSON WITH AN ELECTRIC CHAIR HUNG AROUND THEIR NECK?

JESUS MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF NO ONE EVER KNEW AND YOU NEVER GOT CREDIT FOR IT?

3. AT THE COST OF PERSONAL REALIZATION. "BEAR HIS CROSS."

WHEN YOU COME TO JESUS AS A DISCIPLE, YOU HAVE MADE YOUR LAST INDEPENDENT DECISION.

A JEWELRY STORE HAD A SIGN IN THE WINDOW, "CROSSES – HALF PRICE." THERE ARE NO TRUE HALF PRICE CROSSES.

A. W. TOZER TELLS THIS:

ONE TIME A YOUNG MAN CAME TO AN OLD SAINT WHO TAUGHT THE DEEPER LIFE, THE CRUCIFIED LIFE, AND SAID TO HIM, "FATHER, WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE CRUCIFIED?" THE OLD MAN THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT AND SAID, "WELL, TO BE CRUCIFIED MEANS THREE THINGS. FIRST, THE MAN WHO IS CRUCIFIED IS FACING ONLY ONE DIRECTION.

THE OLD MAN SCRATCHED HIS SCRAGGY HEAD AND SAID, "ONE THING MORE, SON, ABOUT A MAN ON THE CROSS – HE IS NOT GOING BACK." WHEN YOU DIE ON THE CROSS, YOU HAVE SAID GOODBYE.

THE OLD MAN WENT ON, "ANOTHER THING ABOUT THE MAN ON THE CROSS, SON; HE HAS MADE NO FURTHER PLANS OF HIS OWN."

THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST.

II. DISCIPLES MUST WORK AT ANY COST

LUKE 14:28-30

FOR WHICH OF YOU, INTENDING TO BUILD A TOWER, SITTETH NOT DOWN FIRST, AND COUNTETH THE COST, WHETHER HE HAVE SUFFICIENT TO FINISH IT? [29] LEST HAPLY, AFTER HE HATH LAID THE FOUNDATION, AND IS NOT ABLE TO FINISH IT, ALL THAT BEHOLD IT BEGIN TO MOCK HIM, [30] SAYING, THIS MAN BEGAN TO BUILD, AND WAS NOT ABLE TO FINISH.

DISCIPLESHIP IS A LIFE OF BUILDING. A CRUCIFIXION TO THE OLD WORLD IS FOLLOWED BY A CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW LIFE.

A TOWER IN THE MIDDLE OF A VINEYARD SPEAKS OF PROTECTION AND FRUITFULNESS.

**1. THE LIFE WE BUILD MUST BE SPIRITUALLY CONCEIVED.
"INTENDING TO BUILD."**

RATHER THAN ASKING GOD TO BLESS WHAT YOU ARE DOING, PRAY AND ASK GOD THAT YOU MIGHT DO WHAT HE IS BLESSING. LET GOD BE THE ARCHITECT OF YOUR TOWER.

GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE. TOO MANY ARE DRAWING THEIR BREATH AND DRAWING THEIR SALARY. GULP DOWN BREAKFAST, RUSH TO THE JOB, FIGHT THE TRAFFIC, COME HOME, READ THE PAPER, TUNE INTO TELEVISION, TAKE AN ASPIRIN AND CALL IT A DAY.

**2. YOUR LIFE SHOULD BE SACRIFICIALLY CONSTRUCTED.
"COUNT THE COST."**

THERE IS NO CHEAP WAY OR LAZY WAY.

3. YOUR TOWER SHOULD BE STEADFASTLY COMPLETED.

2 TIM. 4:7

**I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE,
I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH:**

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LUKE 14:25-35

PAUL WAS FAITHFUL TO THE FIGHT, FAITHFUL TO THE FAITH AND FAITHFUL TO THE FINISH.

DON'T LET THE HORDES OF HELL MOCK YOU. LAUGHING BECAUSE YOU HAVE STARTED TO BUILD AND HAVE NOT FINISHED.

OH, THE HEARTBREAK OF HALF-BUILT TOWERS — UNFINISHED TASKS.

YOU QUIT BECAUSE YOUR BOYS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL WERE BAD BOYS. WHO DO YOU THINK NEEDS SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS?

DEACONS ROTATE OFF THE ACTIVE LIST AND BECOME PERMANENTLY INACTIVE.

CHURCH MEMBERS WHO ARE INACTIVE. WHAT SOME CALL SHOPPING FOR A CHURCH IS REALLY A LACK OF COMMITMENT TO THE CAUSE OF CHRIST.

SOME WHO MADE PROMISES CONCERNING TITHING BUT HAVE GONE BACK ON GOD.

III. DISCIPLES MUST WAR AT ANY COST

LUKE 14:31-32

OR WHAT KING, GOING TO MAKE WAR AGAINST ANOTHER KING, SITTETH NOT DOWN FIRST, AND CONSULTETH WHETHER HE BE ABLE WITH TEN THOUSAND TO MEET HIM THAT COMETH AGAINST HIM WITH TWENTY THOUSAND? [32] OR ELSE, WHILE THE OTHER IS YET A GREAT WAY OFF, HE SENDETH AN AMBASSAGE, AND DESIRETH CONDITIONS OF PEACE.

TO BE A DISCIPLE NOT ONLY MEANS A CRUCIFIXION AND A CONSTRUCTION, IT MEANS A CONFLICT.

THERE IS A BATTLE RAGING AND A TRUE DISCIPLE MUST STAND WITH HIS MASTER.

1. JESUS WANTS WARRIORS WHO ARE NOT COWARDS.

IT LOOKS LIKE TWO TO ONE – 10,000 AGAINST 20,000.
YET IF GOD BE FOR US, WHO CAN BE AGAINST US?
“THE LITTLE BOY SAID I WOULD LIKE TO BE A SOLDIER
AND GO OFF TO WAR AND FIGHT BATTLES IF I KNEW I
WOULDN’T GET HURT.”

RATHER WE OUGHT TO BE LIKE THE MAN WHO SAID TO
HIS COMRADES, “MEN, WE ARE SURROUNDED BY THE
ENEMY. DON’T LET ANY OF THEM ESCAPE.”

SOME BECAUSE OF COWARDICE HAVE DROPPED OUT OF
THE BATTLE.

2. JESUS WANTS WARRIORS WHO ARE NOT COMPROMISERS.

DOUGLAS MACARTHUR SAID, “IN WAR THERE IS NO
SUBSTITUTE FOR VICTORY.”

WE DO NOT NEED TO BE AMBASSADORS THAT STRIKE UP
AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEVIL. WE CANNOT
PEACEFULLY CO-EXIST WITH HIM. IF WE DO NOT WIN, WE
LOSE.

THE HUNTER AND THE BEAR. THE BEAR WANTED A MEAL
AND THE HUNTER WANTED A FUR COAT.

THE MOTTO OF THE FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION IS THIS:
“IF I FALTER, PUSH ME ON; IF I STUMBLE, PICK ME UP; IF I
RETREAT, SHOOT ME.”

3. JESUS WANTS WARRIORS WHO ARE NOT CAUTIOUS.

LUKE 14:33

SO LIKEWISE, WHOSOEVER HE BE OF YOU THAT FORSAKETH
NOT ALL THAT HE HATH, HE CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE.

NO MATTER WHAT IT COSTS – EVEN OUR LIVES –TRUE
DISCIPLES ARE NOT FOR SALE.

YOUR CHIEF WEAPON IS KILLING, MINE IS DYING.

IV. DISCIPLES MUST WITNESS AT ANY COST

LUKE 14:34-35

SALT IS GOOD: BUT IF THE SALT HAVE LOST HIS SAVOUR, WHEREWITH SHALL IT BE SEASONED? [35] IT IS NEITHER FIT FOR THE LAND, NOR YET FOR THE DUNGHILL; BUT MEN CAST IT OUT. HE THAT HATH EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR.

- 1. SALT SPEAKS OF WITNESS AND TESTIMONY. A CRUCIFIXION IS FOLLOWED BY A CONSTRUCTION, A CONFLICT AND A COMMISSION.**
- 2. TOO MANY SO-CALLED DISCIPLES HAVE A TESTIMONY THAT IS FLAT. THERE IS NO ZEST AND FLAVOR TO IT. A TRUE DISCIPLE WILL BE LIKE SALT.**

A. SALT PRESERVES.

JESUS SAID TO FISHERMEN THAT THEY WERE THE SALT OF THE EARTH. THESE FISHERMEN USED SALT TO PRESERVE THEIR CATCH.

SALT PREVENTS DECAY AND RESTRAINS CORRUPTION.

AMERICA DEFINITELY NEEDS THE PRESERVING POWER OF THIS SALTY GOSPEL.

SODOMY HAS GONE FROM A SIN TO A SICKNESS, TO A SOCIALLY ACCEPTED PRACTICE. IT IS TIME FOR THE SALT TO WORK.

THE CESSPOOLS OF INIQUITY ARE FULL AND RUNNING OVER.

LOVE IS FORSAKEN FOR LUST.

SATAN IS WORSHIPPED AS A SAINT.

MAN IS MAGNIFIED ABOVE HIS MAKER.

THE ONLY HOPE IS MORE SALT. THE PROBLEM IS NOT WITH HOLLYWOOD, THE PORNOGRAPHERS, THE LIQUOR DEALERS, THE POLITICIANS AND THE THEOLOGICAL LIBERALS. OUR MAJOR PROBLEM IS SALTLESS CHRISTIANS.

B. SALT FLAVORS.

JOB 6:6

**CAN THAT WHICH IS UNSAVOURY BE EATEN WITHOUT SALT?
OR IS THERE ANY TASTE IN THE WHITE OF AN EGG?**

SALT CAUSES FLAVOR TO COME ALIVE.

**THE LITTLE BOY SAID, "SALT IS WHAT TASTES BAD
WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE IT."**

**MAY GOD GIVE YOU A FLAVOR, A TANG, A ZEST.
MOST OF THE PEOPLE THAT WE MEET ARE LIVING
FLAVORLESS LIVES. THEY ARE NOT ALL THAT
INTERESTED IN GOING TO HEAVEN OR HELL. THEY
WANT TO KNOW HOW TO HACK IT ON MONDAY.**

**YET TOO MANY OF US OFFER THEM A TASTELESS FAITH
AND A FLAT TESTIMONY – "THE BLAND LEADING THE
BLAND."**

COL. 4:6

**LET YOUR SPEECH BE ALWAYS WITH GRACE, SEASONED WITH
SALT, THAT YE MAY KNOW HOW YE OUGHT TO ANSWER EVERY
MAN.**

C. SALT HEALS.

**ELISHA THREW SALT INTO A POISONOUS SPRING AND
HEALED THE WATER.**

**TRUE DISCIPLES TURN BARRENNESS AND BITTERNESS
INTO BLESSEDNESS.**

**I HAVE SEEN THIS SALT HEAL BROKEN HOMES,
BROKEN HEARTS AND BROKEN HOPES.**

WHAT WE NEED IS THE ANTISEPTIC OF THE GOSPEL TO HEAL AND BIND UP THE BROKEN.

D. SALT BURNS.

MARK 9:49

FOR EVERY ONE SHALL BE SALTED WITH FIRE, AND EVERY SACRIFICE SHALL BE SALTED WITH SALT.

GOD'S TRUTH, WHEN RUBBED INTO THIS DISEASED OLD WORLD, WILL STING AND BURN.

THERE ARE SOME WHO WANT THE NON-IRRITATING BRAND. THEY HAD RATHER HAVE HONEY THAN SALT. NO OFFENSE MEANS NO EFFECT.

LET'S STOP TRYING TO WIN A POPULARITY CONTEST. NOT EVERYONE WILL APPRECIATE SALTY SAINTS.

E. SALT PENETRATES.

PUT A PINCH OF SALT IN A JUG OF WATER AND ALL THE WATER BECOMES SALTY.

IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO SIT IN OUR SALT SHAKERS ON SUNDAY MORNING. WE HAVE BECOME, "SACRED SOCIETIES FOR THE SNUBBING OF SINNERS."

YOU DON'T PUT THE FISH IN ONE BARREL AND THE SALT IN ANOTHER.

WE ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH NOT THE SALT OF THE CHURCH. YOU DON'T SALT SALT.

APPLY THE SALT AND LET IT PENETRATE. SEPARATION FROM SIN? YES! ISOLATION FROM SINNERS? NO!

A NEWSPAPER REPORTED A CELEBRATION AT A NEW ORLEANS MUNICIPAL POOL. A PARTY AROUND THE POOL WAS HELD TO CELEBRATE THE FIRST SUMMER IN

MEMORY WITHOUT A DROWNING IN ANY NEW ORLEANS CITY POOL. IN HONOR OF THE OCCASION 200 PEOPLE GATHERED, INCLUDING 100 CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS.

AS THE PARTY WAS BREAKING UP AND THE FOUR LIFEGUARDS ON DUTY BEGAN TO CLEAR THE POOL, THEY FOUND A FULLY DRESSED BODY IN THE DEEP END. THEY TRIED TO REVIVE JEROME MOODY, 31, BUT WERE TOO LATE. HE HAD DROWNED SURROUNDED BY LIFEGUARDS CELEBRATING THEIR SUCCESSFUL SEASON.

3. SALT, HOWEVER, MAY LOSE ITS POTENCY.

SALT IN BIBLE TIMES CAME FROM THE DEAD SEA. THE SUN EVAPORATED THE WATER AND LEFT BEHIND THE SALT AND MINERALS. IF LEFT TO ITSELF AND EXPOSED TO HUMIDITY, THE BITE OF THE SALT LEACHED OUT AND LEFT THE CHEMICALS AND THE IMPURITIES. IT BECAME VALUELESS AND EVEN HARMFUL.

YOU COULDN'T THROW IT IN THE FIELD BECAUSE IT WOULD KILL THE PLANT LIFE. IF IT DRAINED INTO THE WELL, IT WOULD CONTAMINATE THE WATER. THE ONLY OTHER THING TO DO WAS TO THROW IT ON THE HARD, ROCKY PATHWAY AND LET MEN WALK ON IT.

MATTHEW 5:13

YE ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH: BUT IF THE SALT HAVE LOST HIS SAVOUR, WHEREWITH SHALL IT BE SALTED? IT IS THENCEFORTH GOOD FOR NOTHING, BUT TO BE CAST OUT, AND TO BE TRODDEN UNDER FOOT OF MEN.

WHEN IT WAS SPREAD ON THE ROADS, IT WOULD ABSORB MOISTURE, PACK DOWN THE SOIL AND KILL ALL OF THE WEEDS. THERE WAS NOTHING BUT UTTER BARRENNESS.

WHEN WE LOSE OUR SALTINESS, WE OUGHT NOT TO BE AMAZED WHEN WE ARE TRODDEN UNDER FOOT BY A GODLESS WORLD. MUCH OF THE CHRISTIAN BASHING WE SEE TODAY IS BECAUSE OF SALTLESS SAINTS.

CONCLUSION

- 1. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST? HE IS CALLING YOU TODAY.**

REMEMBER THERE ARE NO BARGAIN CROSSES. JESUS IS REALLY TEACHES US TO FOLLOW HIM.

A. HE KNEW A CRUCIFIXION.

B. HE IS CONSTRUCTING A CHURCH AND WILL FINISH THE JOB.

C. HE IS OUR WARRIOR KING AND WILL NOT SHRINK FROM THE BATTLE.

D. HE HAS A HEART THAT BEATS FOR THE LOST AND LEADS HIS CHURCH INTO THE GREAT COMMISSION.

- 2. WE LIVE IN A WORLD DEAF TO GOD, BLIND TO DANGER AND RIPE FOR JUDGMENT. WE HAVE NO LEGITIMATE OPTION BUT TO BE FULLY COMMITTED DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST.**