

Questions for Gospel Harmony #33 – The Sermon on the Mount (Part 3)

Matthew 5.13-16

Special Question: Bible scholars often call the teachings in Matthew 5.13-16 “the Similitudes.” What does this expression mean and why does it describe these teachings?

Special Question: What was the primary use of salt in the ancient world and how does this information help us understand Jesus teaching in Matthew 5.13-14?

1. Explain the following phrases (Verses 13-14):
 - Salt of the earth
 - If the salt loses its flavor how shall it be seasoned?
 - It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men
2. What is the relation between the statements “You are the light of the world” and “a city set upon a hill cannot be hidden”? What might Jesus be representing by the figure of someone lighting a candle and putting it under a basket? How do Christians let their light shine before men?