



November 13-19, 2016

**Text: *Matthew 5:13-16;*
*28:18-20***

SUMMARY OF SERMON: Jesus calls His followers the 'salt' and 'light' of the world. Both of these metaphors reflect items necessary for daily life. God's kingdom has come to the world through Jesus and we, as His disciples, are to live a distinct lifestyle that reveals the necessity of God's kingdom. The final words in Matthew's gospel remind us that all Christians are deployed to bear witness to the nations; Matthew 5 reminds us how to do so.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK [The Bible readings this week reveal that how we live our lives is to bear testimony that we are serving Jesus Christ and representing the kingdom of God.]

Monday, Nov. 14 – **Matthew 5:21-48** [In this section of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, a way of righteous living is set forth that while an admirable goal for us as Christians, is impossible for us to perfect. So besides being a goal it is a reminder that our righteousness before God is dependent upon faith in Jesus, who alone lives this life-style to perfection with a pure heart.]

Tuesday, Nov. 15 – **Proverbs 2** [These words of wisdom which come from God (v.6) are very helpful guidelines to daily living, as are all the proverbs. They mark us as seeing the fear of God as the source for life's wisdom.]

Wednesday, Nov. 16 – **1 Peter 2:4-12** [After Peter makes it clear who we are in Christ, he then encourages us to declare God's praises in our lives and to bear witness – as those belonging to God's kingdom, not the world – by the way we live for Christ.]

Thursday, Nov. 17 – **Isaiah 2** [Although this is a Messianic passage looking for the transformation that Christ will bring to the world, it is an illustration that even the OT people of God knew that our lives were to be attractive to unbelievers to lead them to God and His ways.]

Friday, Nov. 18 – **Ephesians 5:1-18** [Just as Jesus used the light/darkness metaphor to say that we His followers are the light of the world, so does Paul in contrasting how the children of light (i.e. Christians) live in a way distinct from those still in darkness.]

Saturday, Nov. 19 – **Psalms 112** [Note in this psalm how the one who "fears the Lord" is not only blessed but has distinct way of living in this world – a lifestyle of honoring and praising the Lord.]



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