

When the Righteous Thrive

Icebreaker: What are some ways that you can tell when your spiritual life is blooming? What are some way that you can tell you are going through a dry time?

Matthew 5:13-16

What did Jesus mean by “You are the light of the world?”



What did Jesus say about salt that has lost its saltiness? What would a Christian who has lost his/her distinctive holiness be like?

What are one or two convictions that God has given you about how to approach your life. What could you do specifically to “salt” our decaying world with these convictions?

Proverbs 29

List the ways that righteousness and wickedness affect a nation?

Righteousness

Wickedness

Give examples from your own experience or observations of how these principles work in the world today?



Proverbs 30

Have you ever prayed a prayer like Agur's in 30:8-9?
What prayer similar to Agur's would you pray for yourself?

One way to retain your saltiness in your life is to allow creation to fill you with a sense of awe for its creator. What are some of the things that amazed Agur and why?



What have you seen today that fills you with a sense of awe for the greatness of your creator?

How would Agur's attitude impact your world?

Matthew 5: 13-16

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven

Proverbs 29:

2 When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice;
when the wicked rule, the people groan.

4 By justice a king gives a country stability,
but one who is greedy for bribes tears it down.

7 The righteous care about justice for the poor,
but the wicked have no such concern.

12 If a ruler listens to lies,
all his officials become wicked.

14 If a king judges the poor with fairness,
his throne will always be secure.

16 When the wicked thrive, so does sin,
but the righteous will see their downfall.

18 Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint;
but blessed is he who keeps the law.

Proverbs 30:

5 "Every word of God is flawless;
he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

6 Do not add to his words,
or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.

7 "Two things I ask of you, O LORD;
do not refuse me before I die:

8 Keep falsehood and lies far from me;
give me neither poverty nor riches,
but give me only my daily bread.

9 Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you
and say, 'Who is the LORD ?'
Or I may become poor and steal,
and so dishonor the name of my God.

10 "Do not slander a servant to his master,
or he will curse you, and you will pay for it.

11 "There are those who curse their fathers
and do not bless their mothers;

12 those who are pure in their own eyes
and yet are not cleansed of their filth;

13 those whose eyes are ever so haughty,
whose glances are so disdainful;

14 those whose teeth are swords
and whose jaws are set with knives
to devour the poor from the earth,
the needy from among mankind.

18 "There are three things that are too amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:

19 the way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a maiden.

25 Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the summer;

26 coney ^[d] are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;

27 locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;

28 a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

29 "There are three things that are stately in their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:

30 a lion, mighty among beasts,
who retreats before nothing;

31 a strutting rooster, a he-goat,
and a king with his army around him. ^[e]