

SALT – Preserving Power  
ABT – January 24, 2010  
Pastor Ed Holland

Text: Matthew 5:13-16

*“You are the salt of the earth.” (Vs. 13a)*

1. The need for preservation

*“The **heart** is deceitful above all things, And desperately **wicked**;  
Who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9)*

*“For **all** have **sinned** and fall **short** of the glory of God,”  
(Romans 3:23)*

2. The salt has the power to preserve

- Power to preserve a family

*“For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband;” (1 Corinthians 7:14a)*

- Power to preserve a city

*“So the LORD said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.” “Suppose ten should be found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of ten.” (Genesis 18:26 & 32b)*

- Power to preserve a nation

*“Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.”  
Proverbs 14:34*

- Power to preserve the world – 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12

3. The reason salt loses its preserving power

*“...but 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” (Vs. 13b)*

*“The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins. So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away.”*

2 Peter 1:8-10 NLT