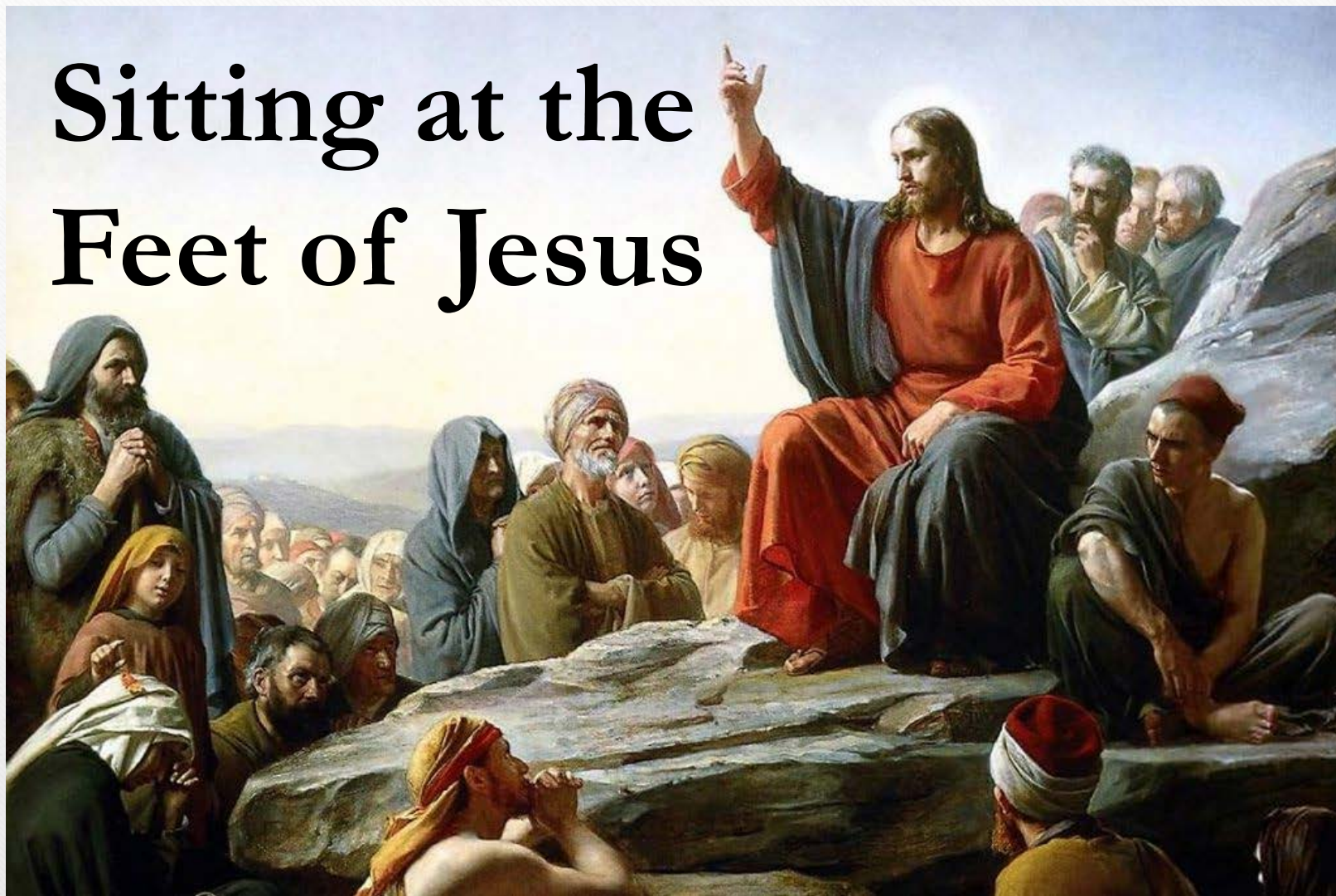


Sitting at the Feet of Jesus



The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5-7

Question

When we become poor in spirit, mourn over our sin, humble, gentle, hungering and thirsting for righteousness, pure, at peace with God who will we become like?

Jesus!

Matthew 5: 13 (NASB)

“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men.”

Question

When we become poor in spirit, mourn over our sin, humble, gentle, hungering and thirsting for righteousness, pure, at peace with God what did Jesus say we would become like?



SALT!

Question

What are the properties of salt that would cause Jesus to say that if we become like Him we will become salt?

Salt

1. Prevents decay

Question

Do you think our
world is decaying
today?

Question

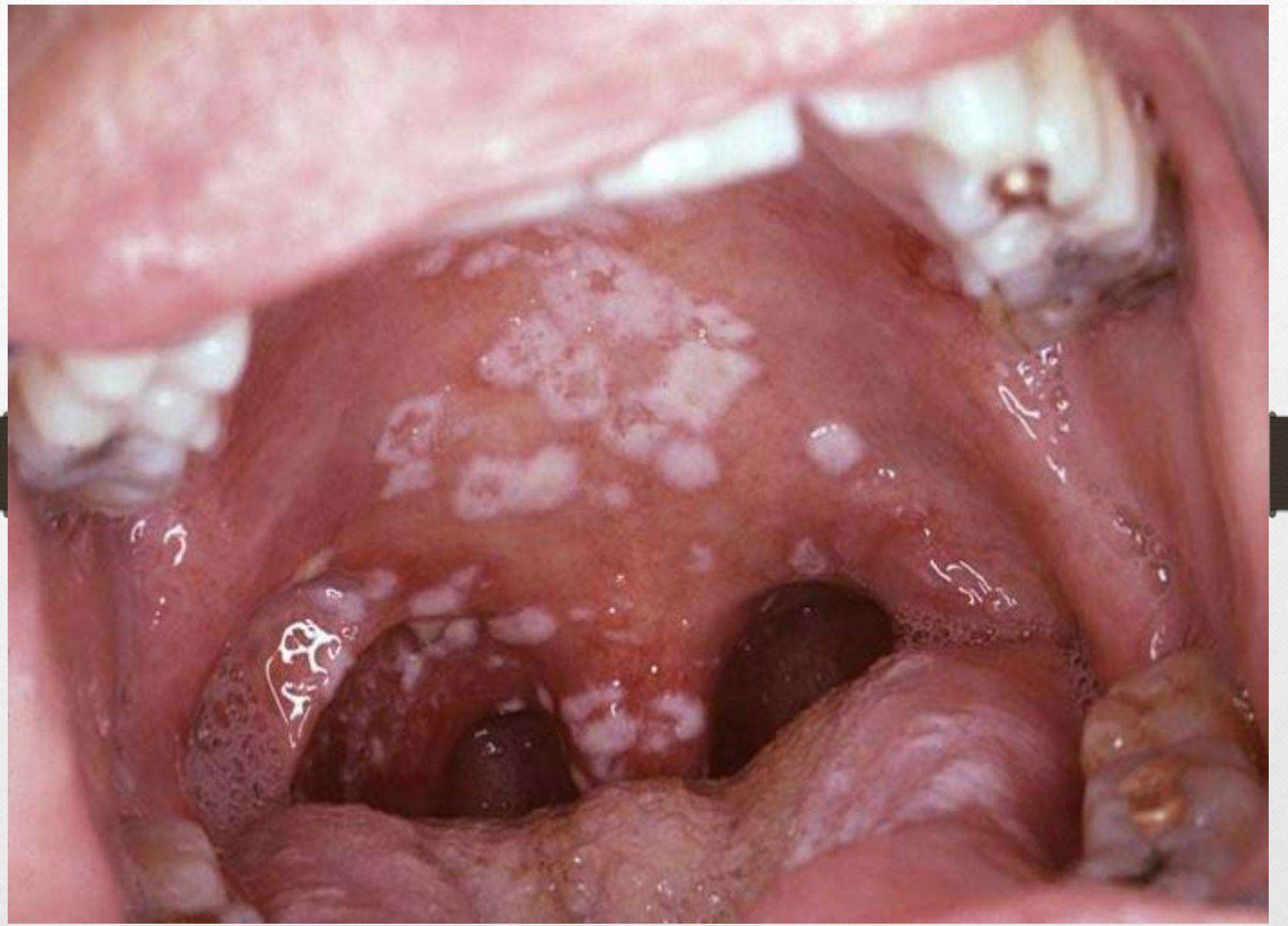
How does salt prevent decay?

Salt draws contaminated water molecules out and replaces them with salt molecules until the amount of salt is equal inside and out.

Question

If salt prevents decay, can you think of something Jesus references that produces infection and decay, hint it is used to make bread?

Yeast!



Question

What are signs of spiritual decay?

Signs of Spiritual Decay

- Lack of spiritual growth

Exodus 32: 1 (NASB)

Now when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people assembled about Aaron and said to him, "Come, make us a god who will go before us;

Exodus 32: 1 (NASB)

as for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.”

Signs of Spiritual Decay

- Lack of spiritual growth
- Materialism

Exodus 32: 2-3 (NASB)

Aaron said to them, "Tear off the gold rings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." Then all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears and brought them to Aaron.

Question

How can you tell what
is most important to
you?

Signs of Spiritual Decay

- Lack of spiritual growth
- Materialism
- Idolatry

Exodus 32: 4 (NASB)

He took this from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."

Question

What is an Idol?

Signs of Spiritual Decay

- Lack of spiritual growth
- Materialism
- Idolatry
- Laziness

Exodus 32: 5 (NASB)

Now when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord."

Question

Why do you think Aaron's act of false worship was a feast celebration and not mourning and fasting?

Signs of Spiritual Decay

- Lack of spiritual growth
- Materialism
- Idolatry
- Laziness
- Playing Church

Exodus 32: 5 (NASB)

So the next day they rose early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

Question

Do we see some in the
Church playing
Church?

Question

Do we sometimes see
playing games
becoming more
important than being
salt?

Salt

1. Prevents decay
2. Heals

Question

Has anyone ever
gargled with salt?

Question

Do you know how to
treat a yeast infection
in the mouth?



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Treating Oral Thrush With A Salt Rinse

 1386  0



Ezekiel 16:1-3 (NASB)

Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Son of man, make known to Jerusalem her abominations and say, ‘Thus says the Lord God to Jerusalem, “Your origin and your birth are from the land of the Canaanite, your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.

Ezekiel 16:4 (NASB)

As for your birth, on the day you were born your navel cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water for cleansing; you were not rubbed with salt or even wrapped in cloths.

Question

How does salt heal?

Question

How does spiritual
salt heal?

Salt

1. Prevents decay
2. Heals
3. Salt irritates

Question

How does spiritual
salt irritate?

2 Timothy 4: 3-4 (NASB)

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

2 Timothy 4: 3-4(NASB)

and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

Salt

1. Prevents decay
2. Heals
3. Salt irritates
4. Salt causes hunger and thirst

Question

City ham or
country ham?

Question

How does spiritual salt create a hunger and thirst for God?

Matthew 5: 6 (NASB)

*“Blessed are those who
hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they
shall be satisfied.*

Question

Do you have to take
the salt out of the
shaker to taste it or
for it to work?

In order for salt to
preserve, heal,
irritate, add flavor or
create thirst it must
get out of the shaker!

John 17: 14-18 (NLT)

I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

John 17: 14-18 (NLT)

I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. They do not belong to this world any more than I do.

John 17: 14-18 (NLT)

Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world.

Salt

1. Prevents decay
2. Heals
3. Salt irritates
4. Salt causes hunger and thirst
5. Salt adds flavor

Question

What happens when we lose our saltiness?

Matthew 5: 13 (NASB)

“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again?

It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men.

Question

What does it mean to
add flavor to the
world?

Question

Are you a tasteless
Christian or do you
add flavor to the
world?

Question

Do you add flavor by greeting people with a smile while making eye contact?

Are you pleasant to be around?

Question

Do you look like you have been sucking on lemons?

Do you avoid eye contact, avoid talking to people and seldom smile?

God call us to be salt
and add flavor, He
does not call us to be
prunes and add
bitterness!

Challenge

1. Look at yourself periodically in the mirror and see if a smiling face is looking back
2. Force yourself to speak to others, smile and make eye contact

Question

How can we tell if we
are losing our
saltiness?

Question

When you are living
like the rest of the
world!

Matthew 5: 3 (NASB)

*“Blessed are the poor
in spirit, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.*

Matthew 5: 4(NASB)

*“Blessed are those
who mourn, for they
shall be comforted.*

Matthew 5: 5 (NASB)

*“Blessed are the
gentle, for they shall
inherit the earth.*

Matthew 5: 6(NASB)

*“Blessed are those
who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for
they shall be satisfied.*

Matthew 5: 7 (NASB)

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.”

Matthew 5: 8 (NASB)

*“Blessed are the pure
in heart, for they shall
see God.*

Matthew 5: 9 (NASB)

*“Blessed are the
peacemakers, for they
shall be called sons of
God.*

Matthew 5: 10 (NASB)

*“Blessed are those
who have
been persecuted for
the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.*

Question

Are you a salty saint?