

Ye Are the Salt of the Earth

by Aaron Hurst

We are called to be the salt of the earth, preserving and adding flavor to the world, and to be the light of the world, shining brightly for all to see and glorifying God.

Duration: 1:15:28

Scripture: Philippians 2:14

Topics: "Holiness"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of living out the teachings of the Bible rather than just speaking about them. He urges those who are wealthy to not be arrogant or rely on their riches, but to trust in God and use their resources to do good and help others. The preacher also highlights the significance of being a witness for Christ by being salt and light in the world. He encourages believers to let their actions and lives reflect the power of a resurrected life and to bring the Gospel to others through their words and deeds.

Transcript

Hello, this is Brother Denny. Welcome to Charity Ministries. Our desire is that your life would be blessed and changed by this message.

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Let's pray together. Yes, Father in Heaven, that is our heart's cry, Lord. Come, Lord, and fill us and baptize us in your holy presence, your Holy Spirit.

For, Father, all is vain unless your Spirit comes down. Father, we sense our need of you, Lord. We are undone without you, Father.

And so, Lord, we just do cry out to you, Lord, that you would look upon us in your mercies, in your tender kindness and goodness, Lord, and grant us, Father, the sweet fragrance of Christ in our midst, Lord.

Father, we do pray in Jesus Christ's name, have mercy upon your servant, Lord, and grant grace to preach the Word of God in truth, in love, with compassion. Oh, Lord, take your Word.

You say it is like a fire. You say it is like a hammer. You say it is like a sword.

You say it is like a gentle dew, like a gentle rain from Heaven. Oh, God, only you can do all of these things at the same time. Father, we ask in Jesus' name, feed us.

For we're hungry, Lord. And unless you feed us, God, we will go away empty. Jesus, you are the bread of life that came down from Heaven.

And we look to you. And our expectation and our faith is in you, Lord Jesus. We are gathered in your name, Lord Jesus.

And we thank you that where two or three are gathered in your name, there you are in the midst. Oh, thank you that we can sit at your feet, Lord Jesus. Father, I pray you wouldn't pass anyone by here this morning.

But, Lord Jesus, that you would stop and we would stop and sit at your feet and learn of you. We love you, Jesus, because you first loved us. We praise you and we thank you in Jesus' name.

Amen. You may be seated. God bless you, my brothers and my sisters.

It's good to be back. Having spent two weeks away from my family and my church family. And it's a real joy to be back home again.

I must say I am still struggling with the time shift. About right now, I just like to be sleeping. My body would just like to be sleeping.

I manage to stay awake during the day times, but then I also manage to stay awake at night. You know, so I am like a little baby. I have my days and my nights still a little mixed up.

But I trust I won't fall asleep on you. But if I do, please help me. So I was praying and just seeking the Lord for what he'd have for us this morning.

Had a number of different things on my heart. Would have been real easy to just go to Romans 10. Where Paul, just unburdening his heart, said, My heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved.

For I bear them a record. They're a zealous people. But they're not aware of the righteousness which is by faith in Christ Jesus.

And so being ignorant of that righteousness, they go about to establish their own righteousness. And have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God which is by faith in Christ Jesus. And that is a burden on my heart.

And that could apply to the Achenese people in Banda Ache. It could apply to the people in Lancaster County who are walking in their own righteousness. And have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

And while that's a burden on my heart, I just felt like the Lord just wouldn't give me a clearing in that direction. But something just kept burning in my heart. As we were sharing together, Emmanuel already shared on it some.

The name. The blessed name of the Lord Jesus Christ is blasphemed through you Western Christians and the Muslim people who are lost. Because there is salvation in none other but in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is none other foundation that can be laid but in that which has been laid. Which is the Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son. Coming and giving His life a ransom and a payment for the sin debt of humanity.

And along comes a prophet 600 years later of the Lord Jesus Christ by the name of Muhammad. And he has revelations. And he must have known something about the Holy Scriptures because his revelations declare that if anyone should believe that God would have a Son that should save his people from their sins, that that is blaspheming.

And such a person should not be suffered to live. And many other such like things. And to me it's staggering that millions of people are following this prophet who by his lies is blinding the eyes of millions.

And then I was sitting there in these meetings with Brahm as Emmanuel mentioned and some of the others there from YBI working in Indonesia. And we were sharing hearts. How can the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ penetrate the darkness? Brothers and sisters, if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost.

One of the things that Emmanuel did not mention which I'll mention here is that it was shared with us that the Muslims will argue religion and history and doctrine all day long. They don't believe the Bible but there is something they cannot resist. It's a living epistle.

It's a life abundant in Christ. Because there is a vacuum in their hearts. Their continual devotion and many prayers are in effort to gain the favor of Allah.

No assurance as brother Emmanuel shared. No forgiveness of sins. And if you really want to add to the security of a Muslim, you must make a trip to Mecca.

Make a pilgrimage to Mecca. And as we were in Banda Aceh and flying back to Medan on the return trip, we got on a plane with probably 80%, 75% old men and women dressed in white making pilgrimage to Mecca. Talking to Nora, I believe is her name from YBI as we were waiting in Benin for Eric Langer to also catch up with us because the plane was absolutely booked out tight full that we were on.

So, he came in another flight about an hour later. So, I was able to communicate with Nora and ask her some questions concerning the pilgrimage to Mecca and so forth. And she said, you know, it's their holy land.

And a lot of people go when they're old because if they could die there, oh, that would be their wish. Because if I can die there, I'm so much closer to Allah and His holy ground. It's a holy land.

But beloved brothers and sisters this morning, these dear souls, very selfless, very sincere, very devoted are without Christ in the world. Open your Bibles with me to Matthew chapter 5. Matthew chapter 5 and verse 13. Let's stand together for the reading of God's word.

Ye are the salt of the earth, but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world, a city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick.

And it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets.

I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one chopped or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of the least, whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven.

But whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. You may be seated.

Ye are the salt of the earth, but if the salt have lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? Can somebody answer that question? If the salt have lost its savor, if it has lost its taste, if it has lost its quality, if it has lost its strength, wherewith shall it be salted? Salt. This is real genuine salt. It has a quality about it.

It adds a dimension of flavor to the meat. It brings out a beautiful taste upon your eggs. Ever try eating your eggs without salt? Ye are the salt of the earth.

Salt. Today we have refrigeration. But salt is also a preservative.

You know, the ham was cured with salt. And it could hang at room or air temperature, outdoor temperature, for months and not spoil. Salt.

Oh, salt. It adds spice to life. Salt.

It adds taste to your food. Salt. But you know this salt doesn't do any good as long as it's in this shaker.

Amen? In order for you and I to benefit from this salt, it needs to be poured out. Ye, my brothers, my sisters, who are saved and sanctified and called out unto the Lord, ye are the salt of the earth. How shall the people in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, be salted? How shall the people in Lancaster County be salted if the salt have lost its savor? It says it this way in Mark.

Everyone shall be salted with fire and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. Salt is good, but if the salt have lost its saltiness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves and have peace one with another. Peace.

We are going to teach peace in our schools. That struck a chord with me also, brother Emmanuel. The government official who is head over the schools there in Banda Aceh, as he said those words, we have just initiated into our curriculum that there must be a teaching of peace.

Ah, yes. Peace. Peace comes from knowing the Prince of Peace.

He says, have salt in yourselves and have peace one with another. If you and I are salted with the salt of God, we'll have peace one with another. Amen? In Leviticus, God told them concerning the sacrifices, Leviticus 2.13, you don't need to turn there.

He said, every oblation of thy meat offering shalt thou season with salt. Neither shalt thou offer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat offering. With all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt.

You know, a professing Christian life without saltiness, without fire, is like trying to eat an egg without salt. In fact, it's a lot worse than that. They cannot refute life.

They'll argue history. They'll argue religion. But they can't refute life.

Ye are the salt of the earth. In Luke's Gospel, it says it like this. Salt is good.

Oh, I can attest to that. Amen. You forget to salt the beef or the fish.

Pretty flat, isn't it? People will be saying, hey, pass that salt shaker. Right? You know, a professing Christian without a practical holy life is pretty tasteless. Not very attractive.

Luke's Gospel, it says, if the salt had lost its savor where it should be seasoned, it is neither fit for the land nor yet for the dunghill, but men cast it out. He that has ears to hear, let him hear. Men will cast that unsavory salt out.

Is that what happened in Banda Aceh? They see Christendom and westernized Christendom, they see these linked together. They don't separate. So, when they think of Christian, they think of the West.

And when they think of the West, they want nothing to do with the West. Because the West has cast off restraint. We will not have God rule over us.

Oh yeah, we'll still name Him by name. We want just enough of God to get us into heaven, to escape hell. But no, we don't want to be radical Christians and really live for God.

We just want to go on our merry way, partying and having fun, just living like the rest of the world. And they see that, and like Emanuel said, it's not the problem with the gospel, but it's the problem with the package. You know what? They are not going to read this Bible.

The only Bible they are going to read is you and I. And that's how a lot of people are here in the United States also. They have taken the Bible away. They have taken it out of our schools.

And people don't regard the Bible as the authority of the Word of God and that everything that was spoken and every word of God that was spoken, it shall come to pass. You can count on it. You can believe it.

We just read it this morning. Not one jot or one tittle shall pass till all be fulfilled. When God says, Thus sayeth the Lord.

So it is. Ye are the salt of the earth. How shall the Achenes be salted? You can't go and stand on the street corner and preach.

It probably wouldn't be very effective. Ah, but, as it says in 2 Corinthians 3, Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men, for as much as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ. Ah, that is how the gospel will be brought to Banda Aci.

And that is how the gospel is brought here also. By all means, preach the gospel. If necessary, use words.

By all means, preach the gospel. Let your conversation and your life be manifestly declaring the testimony of Jesus Christ, the power of a resurrected life. And if necessary, use words.

Now maybe that's a bit heavy on one side. I'll give it that. But your walk talks so loud, I can't hear what your talk talks.

Right? How shall this world be won? Ah, the salt gets out of the shaker and it is scattered abroad just like in the book of Acts when persecution arose and the Christians were scattered and they went everywhere preaching and testifying of the saving power of God. And the salt was doing its work preserving and making a people thirsty. Thirsty to know what do you have that I don't have.

You've heard this statement before. You can lead them to water, but you can't make them drink. Oh, but if there's some salt around, they're going to get thirsty.

Life. Abundant life in Christ. Ye are the salt of the earth.

My brother, my sister, yes, you and I right here in Lancaster County, right here in everyday life, ye are the salt of the earth. That's very challenging to my own heart. I can see so many areas where I fall short.

And I don't want this message to be condemnation upon anyone's heart, but rather an encouragement. Have salt in yourselves. He also says there in Matthew 5 that ye are the light of the world.

A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Oh, yes. Not only salt, but light.

These are little lights shining everywhere they go. I'm going to let this little light shine. Hallelujah.

And those people that sit in darkness and in gross darkness begin to see the lights. Hallelujah. Light is springing up.

You know, it can't be hid. It can't be hid. And God had a lot more in mind than just building a few houses.

And the tsunami came. I agree, brother Emmanuel. And Christian Aid Ministries, those who are on the board of directors, they said we just can't let this thing go.

This thing just keeps plaguing us that there needs to be an ongoing work in Indonesia. There have been so many people coming and asking questions. In fact, Brom said that the Indonesians are more open to asking questions of the CAM workers and people than their own Indonesian Christians.

And you know what I believe it is? I believe at least in part it's because there is a life being lived and the package in which the gospel is being presented is holy. It's godly. It's orderly.

It's modest. It's loving. It's caring for the people.

And they sense it. And they know it. And the offense of the western package, if I may call it that, is removed.

And they say, you're different. You're different. And so, as you're at work, you know, rubbing shoulders with all of these people, the light is shining.

The salt is having an effect. And they're getting thirsty. And they're saying, tell me, tell me about your God.

Oh, that we would not miss this. Yes, there is a danger of a people who pursue holiness and practical Christian living. Yes, there's a danger of legalism and Phariseeism.

And think we're better than others and, you know, looking down on others because they don't practice Christianity as we do. Yes, there is a danger. But my dear brother and sister, let us not be afraid of falling into that ditch so that we don't even walk in the straight and the narrow way with the Lord and apply a practical Christianity because, well, we might become legalists.

We might become under bondage to the law if we really practice true modesty, if we really practice the headship veiling, if we really are separated under God. Brahms said, you know, you people are different. You don't watch television.

You're not following the fashions. You're modest. And see, the Muslims, they are very strict on the modesty.

And then here comes western Christianity. Dress like Hollywood. May I be so bold? Faces all painted up like Jezebel.

And they say, sorry, we don't want your gospel. We don't want your Christianity. We will be an offense to some, yes, for the cause of Christ.

There will be those that will be offended. There will be those that will hate Jesus Christ just like they did when he walked on the earth. And they'll even call him a devil.

Well, he said, if he did that to a green tree, what will they do to a dry one? We might also get called a devil. But let the offense be because of Christ. And not because of the package.

And I want to flaunt my liberties. And I'm free in Christ. Oh, to see those born again, Muslim women, continuing to veil their heads, continuing to dress modestly, that the offense of the package, of the gospel, ceases from that aspect.

Amen? I think we need to earnestly contend for the faith. It is just in the last 50 years, but especially the last 100 years, that things in Western culture and world has slid into an extreme worldliness. And you can be a Christian and a movie star.

And you can be a Christian and have punk rock music. Just add a little Jesus in with it. You can be a Christian and look like a wolf.

Brothers and sisters, there is something radically wrong. God said, come out from among them and touch not the unclean thing and be ye separate unto me, saith the Lord. And I'll be your father.

Ye shall be my sons and my daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. Can't they just mix it all together? Just become like the Egyptians and the Philistines and win them that way? No! When Israel regressed to that, they were a stench. And the name of God was blasphemed through them.

Can you see it? And so it is still today, my brothers, my sisters. The name of God is blasphemed. Ye are a living epistle, known and read of all men, perceived and recognized.

What is my life saying? You know this whole thing of good works. Oh, they shall see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven. We have pendulum swung so far in the other direction that we're afraid of anything that smells of works.

Because it's not by works of righteousness that we are saved. Of course it isn't. But my brother, my sister, ye are created in Christ Jesus, His workmanship, unto good works which He has foreordained that we should walk in them.

And how will the world know? By their fruits ye shall know them. By their good works. When they behold your good works, they're going to glorify God.

I'll just read a few verses here for us this morning. And you may jot the references down if you like. It is amazing how many times this comes up in the New Testament.

I don't have near all of them. I have a few. 1 Timothy 2, 8-10 1 Timothy 6, 17-19 2 Timothy 3, 16-17 for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Titus 2, 7 and 8, in all things showing thyself a pattern of good works, in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you. Titus 2, 11 through 15, for the grace of God that bringeth salvation has appeared unto all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and of our Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak and exhort and rebuke with all authority, let no man despise thee.

Titus 3, 8, this is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which had believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men. Hebrews 10, 23, 24, let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for he is faithful that promised, and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

1 Peter 2, 11 and 12, dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conversation honest among the Gentiles that whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. Philippians 2, 14-16, do all things without murmurings and disputings, that ye may be blameless and harmless as sons of God, without rebuke in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life. 1 Peter 1, 13-16, gird up the loins of your mind, be sober and hope to the end, for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance, but as he which has called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation, because it is written, Be ye holy, for I am holy. 1 Peter 3, 1 and 2, likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands, that if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives, while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. God has before ordained that we who are saved should be filled with the fruit of righteousness and should display the character and the nature of Christ by our deeds, by our actions, by our conversation, which is our walk of life.

And yes, use words if necessary. Some very clear words from the scriptures. Have your conversation honest, walk honestly, that if they speak against you as evil doers, it will be proven false.

You know, just like Daniel. Amen? Daniel. They sought occasion against him.

He was a faithful man. He was an honest man. His conversation was honest.

They couldn't find occasion against him. His good works, his good deeds testified. They may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God.

Do all things without murmurings and disputings. Ah, the light is shining. Look at that Christian home.

Look at the love in that Christian home. Look at the peace that is upon them. Look at the joy of the Lord on their faces.

Look at the harmony in the home. Look at how the children are obedient in the home. Look at how they love one another.

Yes, because they're born of God and love is of God and he that loveth is born of God. I mean, it's just all wrapped up in Christ and in God. So, you have them over for supper and you've developed a bit of a relationship and you have your family table and they get to sit there with you and start asking questions.

Ah, they're getting thirsty. The salt is being scattered abroad. They see how you work on the job.

They'll get angry and talk down on your fellow laborers. You're forgiving, kind. There's a peace about you.

There's a rest in your soul. The earthquakes and trembles. Another earthquake hit six months after the one that brought the tsunami.

Smaller one. People were terrified. Thought the water's going to come again.

And rightly so. They were terrified. I'm not faulting them.

But you, child of God, you're not terrified. You're at peace and you're at rest. They behold your good works.

They behold your conversation and it's a light. It's a light. Oh, it's shining brightly.

It's salt scattered all throughout Banda Aceh that before the tsunami wasn't possible. But today it's possible. How long will the doors be open? We do not know.

How will they be won? You know, it speaks of the wise here that they may be won by the conversation without the word. Could that apply here also? How many people right here in Lancaster County have been won by your conversation without a word? I'm sure we don't. We don't know.

We don't try to keep a track or something. But I know. I know for myself.

When I saw abundant life in a Christian, he didn't have to say anything. His life testified. His needs testified.

That he was righteous and that he had assurance of salvation and that he was fellowshiping and communing with God more than I had. For I was saved. You know, ye are the epistle of Christ.

Known and read of all men, they will behold your chaste conversation. They will behold your reverential fear of God. They will behold your devotion and your love and your adoration toward God.

They will behold your acceptance in the Beloved. They will behold your assurance of forgiveness of sins like brother Emmanuel was sharing. My dear brothers and sisters, ye are the salt of the earth.

I wonder sometimes as God looks upon us and we're like so many grains of salt in the shaker. Could it be the heart of God that he wants to scatter us abroad and repeat the book of Acts all over again? And they went everywhere. And they said, oh, those that have turned this world upside down are come here also.

Ah, some trembled and shook because the religious systems were crumbling. Because the reality of the life of Jesus was coming and people's lives were being changed. And oh, there was great joy in that city because they experienced life in Christ, abundant life.

They tasted it. These Christians are real. They're not like the Pharisees.

They don't just have an outer shell. They're not just walking about in long robes and enlarging the borders of their garments. They're not just praying to be seen of men.

These people are different. Wood to God. That wherever we're planted in God's calling, we're salty, we're light.

There's a lot of hurting people in Lancaster County, a lot of people sitting in darkness, a lot of hurting people sitting in darkness in Africa, a lot of hurting people sitting in darkness in many parts of the world. Lord of harvest, send forth laborers. Let's kneel together in prayer.

Father in heaven, you said in your word, ye are the salt of the earth. Not that we have to try to be the salt. Ye are the salt of the earth.

But then you give us a warning and said, he that has ears to hear, let him hear. Because if the salt has lost its saltiness, wherewith shall it be seasoned? Father, we confess this morning within ourselves, Lord, and we're not salty, Lord. But it is you, Father, that salts us.

As you said there in Mark, I believe that the sacrifice is seasoned with salt and with fire. Lord, by your gentle Holy Spirit, bring conviction where conviction is needed. That we may repent so that we may be genuine and real.

And our lights may shine brightly. That there isn't smoke on the globe of the light of the lantern and they cannot see. Oh Lord, the smoke of worldly loves and other things, Lord.

The smoke of pride and selfishness and all of these things, Father. Oh God, have mercy upon us. Have mercy upon me, Lord.

Have mercy upon us as a congregation. And Father, I pray, let there be no condemnation. But oh Father, the sweet presence of the Holy Spirit, the comforter, the one who convicts of sin, the one who points us to Christ.

Father, we just do ask in Jesus' name, please Lord, we want to be usable vessels in your hand. Father, thank you for what you're doing. Thank you for humbling us.

Thank you for showing us we're nothing without you. But then oh Father, I also pray, illumine our eyes and our hearts that we may know the hope of our calling and the power of Christ, the resurrection. Power that raised Jesus from the dead.

Dwelling in you shall also quicken your mortal bodies. Oh God. Father, forgive us for where we have hindered the shining forth of the light clearly.

Where we have gotten confused and lost our way in religion or in fear of man or in praise of man. Oh Lord, we want your praise. We want your smile.

Father, bless this congregation. I pray in Jesus' name, peace be upon this house. The peace of Jesus.

The rest of Jesus. No condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit. Father, we love you.

Lord of harvest, send forth labors into the harvest. Father, I pray for those that are in prison ministry work this week. I ask you Father that you would anoint them with your Holy Ghost.

With the love of Christ flooding their souls. With the glory of God upon their faces and their lips anointed by you as they share. With those of the offscoring of society that nobody wants locked away in death row.

Oh Father, you're able to save and to snatch them out of the fires even now yet. Lord, for our dear missionary families in Africa, bless them. Encourage their hearts.

Give them fruit for their labors. Oh God, bless Brother Denny as they have retreat and they share together. Make it a rich, sweet experience.

A rejuvenation, an encouragement, a blessing. And Father, those who are laboring in Indonesia, Christian Aid Ministry staff and workers there, bless them Lord. And our dear youth that are there, bless them Father.

Stamp a vision of eternity upon their hearts and the souls of men and the love of God. Thank you Father for granting us this opportunity to have assembled together another Lord's Day. A gift from you Father.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you for the family of God. We love you and we praise you in Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen. I think of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

I think of Daniel. You know how God used those men as they stood against the tide to change the course of a whole kingdom. In these words in Daniel here in chapter 3, this was after the three Hebrew children were released from the fiery furnace.

It says, Meshach and Abednego shall be cut in pieces and their houses shall be made a downhill because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort. And Daniel, basically the same words. King Darius, after Daniel was released from prison, these are his words.

And again, these men stood against the tide of worldliness, heathenism, idol worship, all of that in their day. This is what King Darius spoke. Then King Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages that dwell in the earth, Peace be multiplied unto you.

I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble in fear before the God of Daniel. For he is the living God and steadfast forever and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed and his dominion shall be even unto the end. He delivereth and rescueth and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and earth who have delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

And may God, perhaps God has purpose for us to change the course of the whole kingdom of Indonesia. Through us standing firm in God's word and his principles and his ways and them seeing the very life of Christ and of the Lord and of our God within us. Perhaps God wants to use us in that way to change the course of the tide of iniquity and heathenism in that country and ye false religion.

Okay, I'll open it up for anyone that wants to share a testimony or a confession. Slip your hands up up front here. I was blessed with the message as you were speaking here, Mel.

It just came to me that we have a roaring lion going about seeking whom he may devour. I guess just bringing out here, if the people see that the lion has not devoured us, the God of this world, that's the only way we don't get devoured is if we depend on Jesus, same as Daniel did. And that will send forth a light.

And another thing that really stood out to me was we had a topic this last Wednesday evening about evangelism. And it was one thing that I had to think of was that, you know, if we have ambassadors, we're supposed to be ambassadors for the kingdom of God. If we send somebody to another country, an ambassador over there, he should speak.

A Christian's life does speak. It definitely does. And I was just really blessed with the message today and with what we had Wednesday evening.

There's a time to speak and there's a time for the life to speak. And I just had to think of one place where we read in the scripture, it says that we are to add to our faith. And one thing it says there is temperance.

And when when the world does see temperance in a Christian's life, as we heard here today, that there's some people that think, you know, we're getting religious or something. You know, if we if we have works, you know, we're free in Christ. I think temperance in a Christian's life is very necessary as the Bible brings it out.

Say amen to the message. Thank you, Lester. I just want to thank both Aaron and Emmanuel for the message that they let the Lord use them to.

To bring this message to us this morning, it's been a subject that's been on my heart for for several years now. Just burning and growing and a vision has been growing in my heart personally towards those interests. And I feel like what the Lord is saying to us this morning is that Muslim evangelism is for us here today.

We need not shy away from it. Often we like to turn our heads and look the other way because it seems such a hard thing to witness and to let ourselves be used of God to reach out to Muslims. But for anybody who is willing to live their lives as a kingdom Christian and live those testimonies according to the words of Christ to the commands of the Bible.

Live out in their lives the principles of God's Word. Muslim evangelism is for you to get involved in, to be used of God in any way, to send, to go yourself, to be involved in witnessing to Muslims here and abroad. I just want to bless our preachers here today, this morning.

Anyone else? Put your hands up. Up front here. In the middle here, I should say.

I just want to thank God and thank both you brothers, Emmanuel and Aaron, for bringing what you brought to us this morning. The Lord's been speaking to me about this area of my life, of being a witness, of surrendering and not fearing man and what he would do. Or what man would think of me if I speak.

And I've realized that that fear has kept me from continuing on with the Lord. From opening my mouth and speaking about Christ. And in that way it brings, because I'm afraid of that, God seems to withdraw his power a little bit from my life.

Because I haven't chosen to obey and just trust that he will come in and give me the words to say. Just pray for me that I could obey and serve the Lord gladly and full of faith and trust in him. Thank you.

I was going to also share about this man, Buran, that we met. He's one of CAM's contact people in Asia area, I guess. After the tsunami hit, they contacted him.

He told us about some of the fruit of CAM's funding. He had talked to CAM about, or somehow it was through him that they even entered into Indonesia under YBI. Which he's on the board for YBI, this man named Buran.

He shared with us there in a meeting how that CAM had given some money to him to help assist the Sea Gypsies after the tsunami. The Sea Gypsies are, they're called Sea Gypsies, they live on the seas. Basically in about 800 islands north of the Sumatra area there.

Living on boats, they call them gypsies because they just travel from place to place more or less. They're not really a part of a nation. Many of them don't even have a nationality because they grew up on the water and they don't really belong anywhere.

They're called Sea Gypsies. Many of these were devastated and destroyed and killed through the tsunami because they live on these islands. They're on the shore, they live on stilts just above the water, about this high off the water.

And of course that was very devastating to the tsunami. CAM gave some money to Buran and his organization to assist the Sea Gypsies right after the tsunami. And they began to go out there in boats taking rice out to them and clothing and so forth.

And also Christian literature or witness, witness of Christ there. Recently he said, I understood 175 of them or so, from this one island that they were ministering to, they packed up on a boat, the elders and whoever, and went into the mainland and found the Christians and said we want to become Christians. And so that whole island at this time has basically all become Christians because of the witness and testimony of people coming and ministering to their needs at the time of the devastation.

And Buran was sharing his heart about these people. So there's another 800 islands that these people are living on. And he said his goal is for this island, this Christian island, to become a testimony and a living epistle, Aaron, to all the rest of the 800 islands so that those 800 islands will come to them and ask them, what is it that you have? We want that.

That was just very exciting to us to hear those reports. Amen. That's saltiness.

Amen. Anymore? Yes, as Emmanuel was speaking, I was thinking of something the Lord has been teaching me lately about forgiveness and that it's not quite as hard to forgive somebody when you aren't around them a lot or you don't know them well. It's more like, you know, I can forgive my enemy if he's a little bit distant.

But it's the everyday, the people that are supposed to know us well and supposed to know how we feel and think that at least for me, I have, you know, a little bit more trouble. And I find that, well, that is a work. It's not a work like I can make a decision about my clothes or my car or whatever else.

And well, then they're there and I can put them on or whatever, you know. But it's an everyday work. It's an ongoing work.

And sometimes it's not something that, you know, I would think of as a work, but yet I find that it is. You know, it's just something that I've been learning as, you know. And I just felt like I need to share it.

Thank you. Amen. It takes discipline to be a Christian.

I mean, to walk the Christian life and show forth good works. Did I miss anyone? Okay.

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