

“You Are the Light of the World”
Matthew 5:14-16

The Beatitudes:

1. The Christian in *his disposition before God* vv. 3-6
2. The Christian in *his disposition toward others* vv. 7-9
3. The *World’s disposition toward the Christian* vv.11-12

Another lesson on the Influence of Christians in the World

1. An influence of Character

(1) **Every Christian** is so described *“You are the light of the world”*

(2) The Christian has this influence **by virtue of his character**

- The features of character just described (vv. 3-9)

- Emphasis on **being** rather than on doing - and yet our activity is brought into view! (v.16)

2. The Character of the Influence

(1) The **Figure: Light**

- 1- Light illumines; it exposes the true nature of things

- 2- Another declaration concerning the world’s condition

(2) The **Lesson** (vv. 14-15)

*“A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.
Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket,
but on a lampstand,
and it gives light to all who are in the house.”*

-1- Our lives expose the sin and darkness
in the world around us!

-2- This difference cannot and should not be hidden!

- *Cannot* be hidden: Our lives are radically different; obviously so!

- *Should not* be hidden: It is silly to try to hide the difference!

(3) The **Admonition: How** we “shine” is of critical importance! (v. 16)

-1- We have a **responsibility** in this matter

*“Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

-2- It is our **good works** that others see

-3- The end result is to be **the glory of God**

Further Application: