

Hidden Hills Sovereign Grace Baptist Church

Sunday Sermon

Date: August 04, 2019

Text: Mark 9:38-50

Scripture Reading: Mark 9:38-50

Subject: ...If the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it?

- You and I, as members of the Lord's church, are the salt of this earth. You and I – not the unbelieving world – but us, are the savor of this world. We are the light of the world. Jesus said that. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
 - **Matthew 5:13-16 (KJV)** *Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. **14** Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. **15** 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. **16** Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*
- You and I are the godly influence set in this world for all to see. We are living in this land in a time when we see the hatred and disdain for all that is right and good on every hand. Murder is in our streets as never before. Every institution that once had at least a form of godliness, is corrupted by the god of this world. Sodomy is extolled. Children are being taught to choose their gender in spite of the body which God gave them. Babies are being killed in numbers that stagger our minds – wrenched from the womb and even slaughtered as they come forth. In the 24-hours, dozens of people have been slaughtered in places where people thought

themselves safe and secure until these dark days. Dads, moms, grandparents, young men and women, children – given to the slaughter of evil men. We live in perilous times.

- **2 Timothy 3:1-5 (KJV)** *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

If the righteous soul of Lot was vexed in Sodom and Gomorrah, there can be no doubt that our righteous souls are vexed in seeing the wickedness around us.

- **2 Peter 2:6-8 (KJV)** *And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; **7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: 8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)***

Beloved, today is a day (more than ever) when we cannot allow our hands, feet, and eyes to offend us. All this involves what we choose to do with our hands; where we choose to take ourselves with our feet; and what we allow our eyes to see and think on. Consider it:

- We are bombarded on every side by religious institutions which claim to be the Lord's churches – and we are distraught to know all we would want to know about them. Listen, we can change nothing about all that. We need to work out things according to the scripture and, having done all, to stand on the word of God. Here is a thought:
 - **Mark 9:38-41 (KJV)** *And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him, because he followeth not us. 39 But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. 40 For he that is not against us is on our part. 41 For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.*

Beloved, don't let any of that deter you from your trust in the LORD. Leave them be. Let us take care for ourselves before the LORD.

- **Mark 9:42-50 (KJV)** *And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea. 43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: 48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not*

*quenched. **49** For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. **50 Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.***

It is high time for drastic action. We have to live in this world and rub elbows with the wicked on every hand, but we do not have to partake of their evil deeds. Do we ever consider that using our wealth to partake of the piping of evil into our bosoms as partaking of their evil deeds? Do we invite filthy talk, filthy actions, ungodly pictures and movies, and such like into our homes by television – or worse, into our hands or the hands of our children by cell phones, internet tablets, or computers? Is not their innocence taken away long before the time when they, by the grace of God, can withstand? Are not our own minds corrupted and spirits grieved by looking at wicked things and listening to wicked words? Are we so set on giving our kids that which others have because we don't want them to be "left out?" Godly things? Yes! That which is just and righteous? Yes! As the twig is bent, so shall the tree grow.

As our children grow up, let's provide for them a base of righteousness and godliness because they will soon face even worse times than our time in which we live. We shudder to think that. How can it be worse? But, beloved, it can. What if civil war comes to our land? Then Anarchy? Can we imagine? If the minds of wicked are now so bent to murder, men stealing, sex trafficking of the very young, and hatred of all that is good and right, what shall it be in the day of anarchy? When government is no more in this land? Or when war in our land reaches out to kill, maim, rape, and plunder all on every side? Saints of the first century were bidden to flee when they were persecuted, but we ask: "To whence shall we flee? We are at the ends of the earth." Still, let us learn more and more to trust the LORD and not ourselves?

- **2 Peter 2:9-22** *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to*

*be punished: **10** But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. **11** Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. **12** But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption;*

Let us, more and more – more than ever, separate ourselves unto our God and from this world? That may mean that we take drastic actions – actions for ourselves and our children that the world and even some saints will mock us for so doing. But, let us not dare to love this present world, nor the things in it! I speak as unto wise men, consider -

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV) *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. **17** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*

2 Corinthians 6:16-18 (KJV) *And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **17** Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, **18** And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*

2 Corinthians 7:1 (KJV) *Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.***

Romans 12:1-2 (KJV) *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Romans 13:14 (KJV) *But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.*

I have no doubt that Brother Craig spends much of his time in prayer for you – for it is his duty and he would sin against the LORD by not doing so. This old preacher prays for you as well and give thanks for you. We do labor in prayer for you, beloved of the Lord!

Ephesians 1:16-18 (KJV) *Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; 17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,*

O, beloved, we are like the saints of old who are looking for a city with foundations whose builder and maker is God. Let it be said of us that we, like them, lived and labored by faith. We are strangers and pilgrims in this world, are we not? They confessed that they were – knowing that, they with us had a better place – that is, an heavenly! This world was not their home – they were just passing through – and we are doing that in the end of the age. Let us not count this place of wickedness our home, for it is not. It is just a tent where we live for a little time and then are taken away to our long home. I beseech you, by the grace of God, that you suffer these few words of exhortation and come out from among the world and live righteously and holy knowing that it is our

reasonable service. We shine as lights in the midst of a wicked and perverse generation! Have we lost our saltiness? Wherewith, then shall it be salted?