



MAY 2026



Rolling Roads Baptist Church

LOOKING OVER JORDAN

Jesus said to His followers, *"You are the salt of the earth..."*. You probably know that in Jesus' day, salt was a preservative and a seasoning—something fundamentally good for people's benefit. In Mark 9:50, Jesus declared that salt was good if it did its job. But He continued to say that salt could become useless. How? By becoming "tasteless" or "unsalty." As we say in real estate, if something is not performing the function for which it is intended, it needs to be repaired. Since we are called to be a seasoning and a preservative, we can see this is one of our basic functions in society.



To do this, we will find ourselves to be different in our thoughts, actions, affections, and attitudes than those who are not the "salt of the earth." Apart from being born again, people are often at the mercy of their own appetites and impulses. This is the natural person, not the supernatural person. 1 Corinthians 2:14 says, *"But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised."* If you recall, I preached on those verses not too long ago.

However, this transformation is a supernatural thing. It is something that happens in our being, in our soul, and in our inner man. We are made into a New Creation by the Spirit when we are born again. Sadly, we know that even those who claim the name of Jesus—even those who display Christian symbolism on their cars, their homes, or even their own bodies—can still get their cues from the world. In fact, one survey reported that while 98% of Americans said they prayed, only 50% said their faith made any real change in their behavior. This is both astonishing and sad.

The way to be salt is to *actually* be salt, not to pretend. Romans 12 explains the supernatural character of the Christian life: *"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."* While we live, *"we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."* We know the work of the Lord is not a

BIRTHDAYS

RON LAMKIN
MAY 20



*When we are
away from God,
He misses us
far more than
we miss Him.*
-Ruth Bell Graham



Financial Report
MARCH
Income: \$8406
Expense: \$7826



All things were created by Me: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible. I am your Creator as well as your Savior. Every breath you breathe is a gift from Me. So it's wise to begin each day thanking Me for the precious gift of life, regardless of how you are feeling. This act of thankfulness connects you with Me—your living Savior—and helps you find your way through the day.

In Me all things hold together. Your life often feels fragmented, with many things pulling you this way and that.

Your time and energy permit you to do only a small percentage of the possibilities that are beckoning you. So you need to set priorities and do the most important things first. I will help you with this as you stay in communication with Me. The more you bring your thoughts and plans to Me—seeking My guidance—the more effectively I can show you the way forward. Since all things hold together in Me, your life holds together better when there is more of Me in it!

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. Psalm 143:8

From Jesus Today by Sarah Young



...For your donations to the Baptist Children's Home Food Roundup

...For your gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering which totaled \$555.00

...For your donations to our Blessing Box



LOOKING OVER JORDAN

one-time "fire insurance" guarantee, but a life of love and service. It is about being the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

A long time ago, Becky Pippert wrote, "When we develop a way of living that places a special emphasis on people, that demonstrates holiness and dedicated obedience to God, we can't help but be effective witnesses." Pippert was writing about focusing on others, not the self. Love and selflessness are the requirements for a life of following Jesus. Demonstrating holiness and obedience to God is the power behind the claims we make with our words.



What do we really want deep inside? Do we want to serve ourselves, or to serve others in Jesus' name? Our desires flow from what resides in our hearts and souls. If we have become tasteless or useless, we must let Jesus change, transform, and renew us by His Word. He is merciful and tells the repentant soul, *"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."*

Happy Because of Jesus,

Pastor James