



TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CRESCENT

BIBLE TEACHER

DERICK BINGHAM B.A

There IS an **ALTERNATIVE**

- *Studies In The Sermon On The Mount* -

TUESDAY, 21ST JANUARY 1992

Subject: 'How To Make Life Tasty'

Matthew 5:13-16

1. Overlap from last week's study:

- (a) 'Happy are the merciful.' This implies that to receive mercy and to show mercy belong indissolubly together.
- (b) 'Happy are the pure in heart'. This refers primarily to sincerity, there must be no hypocrisy, no play-acting, no ulterior motive.
- (g) 'Happy are the peacemakers.' This is a clear sequence of thought from purity of heart because one of the most frequent causes of conflict is intrigue, while openness and sincerity are essential to true reconciliation.
- (h) 'Happy are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake.' This is a double beatitude (v10 and v11). This condition is a normal mark of Christian discipleship.

2. Christians are the salt of the earth. What does this teach us?

- (a) There is rottenness in the earth.
- (b) The presence of salt proclaims a difference.
- (c) The function of salt prevents putrefaction, provides savour and creates thirst.
- (d) Desalted salt is even unfit for the compost heap.

3. Christians as the light of the world: what does this teach us?

- (a) The world is in a state of darkness.
- (b) Light exposes the darkness.
- (c) Light explains the cause of the darkness.
- (d) Light is indiscriminate in its benefits.

'Don't overdo it. Don't flaunt your light or fling your salt. Don't rub salt into someone's fresh wound and don't shine a flashlight into somebody's eyes. There's no need to be hurtful or offensive. Just shake the salt and keep the light burning in the window.'

- C. R. SWINDOLL