

*“But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works.”  
Psalms 106:35 KJV*



Salt isn't changed by the heat of the stove or the composition of the dish. It changes that to which it is added. Salt makes bitter herbs palatable and sweet dishes richer. It's one thing to be IN the world, it's quite another to be OF the world. I might be floating IN the ocean with all its creatures, but not be OF the ocean. Sea water is not a life giving substance to my lungs. You can drive a nail IN a tree, but the nail is not OF the tree. Believers are the “salt” of the earth. Saints who try to “fit in” with “*the children of mammon*” run the risk of “*learning their works*.” They begin to enjoy the same pleasures and possessions. Believers who walk close to their Saviour don't need sports, movies, ATV's, boats, cars, fashion, I-phones, big-screen TV's, big incomes, and SUV's to be content. Material possessions and societal status aren't part of their contentment equation. Contentment is the result of learning. I may not know the fire is hot, but after I touch it, I LEARN to be content just observing it. Even the Apostle Paul had difficulties with contentment for he wrote, “*Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have LEARNED, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.*” He had to learn that desire was not necessarily need. Here's a list of his “learning curve.” “*Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.*” These sufferings taught him contentment. Contentment comes with being satisfied with your purpose. He only sought approval from God and though he was “*in the world*” he was not “*of the world.*” You'll never be satisfied pleasing yourself. Change your world. Don't let it change you! “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*”

As salt lends savored nourishment,  
Let me another complement,  
Let Christ in me grant Light to see,  
To guide the blind and halt to Thee! ~CGP

Instead of seeing those in the world as equals or peers, see them as the lost, wandering, and blind beggars they really are; like you were before Christ found you. Like a pet goldfish, no matter how good they have it, they're in prison and they'll leave it all behind! Do you know what the rich will leave behind? ALL OF IT! They'll meet their Maker the same way they met the world; alone, powerless, and naked! “*All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.*” You'll only keep at death's door those treasures laid up in heaven through the obedience of faith imparted by the God's Word. To mingle you must become part of that with which surrounds you. When people see you, do they see Christ or just “one of the gang?”

*“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. 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 12:1-2 KJV*