

"YOU ARE THE SALT (LEAVEN) OF THE EARTH."

This statement by Jesus was to His disciples on a mountain away from the crowds. I have been under the impression that Jesus was teaching a crowd of people on a hillside, the "Sermon on the Mount". My impression was influenced from how presented from pulpits and movie screens. However, by more diligent observation I was able to see and hear more clearly.

The truth is that Jesus didn't teach crowds the deeply spiritual things of the kingdom of God (heavenly things), He taught His disciples; those who followed Him, His 'learners'. He taught by parables when there were 'others' close by, so that 'others' would not understand.

The earth or world is our 'proving ground', placed here by Divine Design for us to overcome, as Jesus overcame. (Rev.3:21 and 21:7)

We, His disciples, are here on earth to first, 'prove' ourselves to be His, and then to influence (leaven) those who desire to be His, with the 'leaven from heaven' or "hidden manna".
(Rev. 2:17)

Another parable He spoke to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

"I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things hidden since the foundation of the world."

"... if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its

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