The Disciple And Good Works

Matthew 5:13-16

Intro:

A. **Jesus taught His disciples the beatitudes.**
   1. They contain the principles of personal relationships and one’s life on earth.
   2. They are the mature disciples guide.
   3. They each have to do with “being”.

B. **Being a disciple is more than “being”.**
   1. The mature disciple is to “do”.
   2. We are to hear His saying and do them.
      Matthew 7:24
   3. One is to “be” and “do”.

I. Doing Good Works Demands Constancy.

A. “Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost its savour, wherewith shall it be salted?” v.13
   1. Christians (the assembly) are as salt.
   2. Salt may loose its savour.
   3. It cannot become “salty” again.
   4. This is the purpose of salt. If it looses its saltiness, it looses its purpose.
   5. The one things salt must be is salty.
   6. constantly doing good is our “salt”.

B. “...it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.”
   1. nothing = οὐδείς = not one thing, “none at all”
   2. cast out = βαλλω = “to throw at”, “to fall”
   3. It can only be used to make paths to walk on.

C. “Ye are the light of the world.”
   1. light = φως = “light, the light of the sun.”
   2. world = κόσμος = “the ordered universe”

D. “A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.”
   1. hill = οἶκος = “a mountain”
2. hid = κρυπτω = "to cover", "conceal."
3. The purpose of a city set on a hill was not to conceal it but to reveal and to serve as a beacon to travelers.
4. To conceal it would be to thwart its purpose.

E. "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."  V.15
   1. Candles were lighted for one purpose.
   2. To put a container over it is to destroy its purpose, its reason for existence.

II. The Purpose Of Good Works.

A. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works..."  v.16
   1. works = εργον = "deed", "produced by labor."
   2. good = καλος = "beautiful", hence, "good."
   3. let shine = λαμπατω = aorist imperative 3rd person singular. λαμπω = "to shine,"
   4. Light does not have a vocabulary.

B. "and glorify your father which is in heaven."
   1. glorify = δοξαζω = to lift opinion, praise
   2. Good works elevate peoples opinion about God if they are done properly.
   3. 1 Peter 2:12