

these words, however young in years or lowly in station; no good example is ever utterly lost, and no one will be quite useless in this cause, who is consistent and sincere, though the good they do may never be known by themselves until they have passed into another life; but here you see again, my dear children, in what abhorrence an unsound and insincere profession of religion is held by our Saviour, by his comparing such professors with salt that has lost its savour; for this is the most utterly worthless of all substances, and unfit to answer any of the purposes for which it was intended; and so it is with persons who make a hypocritical and inconsistent pretension to piety and devotion, because their general conduct does not accord with the principles they profess, they are sources of grief and mortification to those who truly love and worship God, and they bring a reproach upon religion in the eyes of a scoffing and unbelieving world. Ministers of the gospel, who lead careless and ungodly lives, are guilty of these offences in a very high degree; but, happily, there are now very few who are not exemplary and pious men, and those who are not, soon lose the confidence of their flocks, and seldom remain long in an office for which they are as unfit as the "salt" which has "lost its savour" is for any of the uses to which it is commonly applied.

We find salt very often mentioned in the Bible, and from a passage in Leviticus it appears that it was customary to use it in the meat offerings of the Israelites, which were sacrifices established under the law of Moses to represent the one great and finishing sacrifice made by our Saviour on the cross. Find the second chapter of Leviticus, Susan, and read the thirteenth verse.