

Mark 9:42-50 **Danger for Causing Sin – Hell Fire**

42 "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea.

43 If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched-- 44 where

'Their worm does not die,
And the fire is not quenched.'

45 "And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched-- 46 where

'Their worm does not die,
And the fire is not quenched.'

47 "And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire-- 48 where

'Their worm does not die,
And the fire is not quenched.'

49 "For everyone will be seasoned with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt. 50 Salt is good, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Warnings against causing little ones to sin

- ✚ "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea." [Matthew 18:6, Mark 9:42]
- ✚ God's love for believing little ones, is expressed in the warning against anyone who might "cause one of these **little ones who believe in Me** to sin."
 - ✧ It would be better to be drowned in the sea with a mill stone hung around your neck than to face the punishment for having caused a little believer to sin.

Offenses must come

- ✚ Woe to the world because of offenses! For **offenses must come**, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes! [Matthew 18:7, Mark 9:42, Luke 17:1, Acts 14:22]
 - ✧ God wants each of his people to be tested to prove the validity of their faith. [James 1:12, 1 Peter 1:5-7]
 - ✧ God allowed Satan to enter the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve were innocent, to call them to a choice to obey God or to be lured into disobedience. [Genesis 3:1-7]
 - ✧ For the same purpose, God must allow Satan to be released at the end of the Kingdom of Heaven thousand year reign of Christ. [Revelation 20:1-3]
 - ✧ Satan's job is to call those who have been born and raised in the perfect environment of the Kingdom of Heaven, to a choice. That choice is to continue to follow God or to rebel against His rule and His laws that have been held honorable for the entire time.

- ✧ We find that Satan will be as effective at the end of the thousand year reign of Christ as he was in the Garden of Eden. [Revelation 20:7-9]
- ✧ But woe to that man by whom the offense comes! [Matthew 18:7, Luke 17:1]
 - ✧ It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. [Matthew 18:6, Mark 9:42, Luke 17:2]
 - ✧ Those who cause others to sin will be cast into the Lake of Fire with Satan.
 - ✧ Satan will then be cast into the Lake of Fire where the beast and the false prophet still are, after being thrown in a thousand years earlier. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever. [Revelation 20:10]
- ✧ "For everyone will be seasoned with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt. Salt is good, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another." [Mark 9:49-50]
 - ✧ **Seasoned with fire** represents the tests that are to try the strength of our faith.
 - ✧ **Salt** represents the power from within to withstand the test by faithful endurance, to be of value, the salt must not lose its effectiveness.
 - ✧ It is difficult to restore faith after it is lost. [Mark 9:50, Hebrews 6:4-6]
 - ✧ Our choice is involved, so Jesus said: "Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another." [Mark 9:50]

Severity of Judgment in Hell Fire [Matthew 18:8-9, Mark 9:43-48]

- ✧ Hell is so terrible, it would be better to be maimed physically in any form if it would help you avoid being cast into Hell.
 - ✧ To avoid Hell would be worth losing a hand, a foot, an eye or any other part of the body.
 - ✧ Hell is Everlasting Fire that can not be quenched, and the person can not die, a place of everlasting torment. [Matthew 5:29-30, 18:8-9, Mark 9:42-48, Luke 16:19-31, Revelation 20:10]

The Lost are the reason Jesus came

- ✧ "Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven. For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. [Matthew 18:10-11]
 - ✧ The Saints of God, no matter how small, have witnesses in Heaven before the throne of the Father in Heaven. God is witness to all that happens in the life of the least of His believers.
 - ✧ Judgment is inline for anyone who despises one of them.
 - ✧ The very purpose of Jesus coming to earth as a man was to save the lost. [Matthew 10:6, 15:24, 18:11, Luke 19:10]

Illustration of the Lost Sheep

- ✧ The greatest Joy in Heaven is for the sinner who comes to repentance and is saved. [Matthew 18:12-13, Luke 15:1-7, 8-10]
 - ✧ Repentance as evidence of faith is the greatest need for a person to be saved. [Matthew 3:2, 8, 4:17, 9:13, 11:20-24, 12:41, 13:15, Mark 1:4, 14-15, 2:17, 4:12, 6:12, Luke 1:16-17, 3:3, 8, 5:32, 10:13-16, 11:32, 13:3-5, 15:7, 10, 24:46-47, John 12:40, Acts 2:37-38, 3:19, 26, 5:31, 8:22, 11:18, 21, 13:24, 14:15, 17:30, 20:20-21, 26:20, 28:27, Romans 2:4, 2 Corinthians 7:9-10, 1 Thessalonians 1:9, 2 Timothy 2:25-26, James 5:19-20, 2 Peter 3:9, Revelation 2:5, 16, 3:3, 19]
 - ✧ This is evident in the call to repentance in most portions of Scripture. [Jeremiah 18:8, 23:22, 25:4, 26:3, 35:15, 36:3, 7, Ezekiel 13:22, 18:20-32, 33:9-19, Daniel 12:3, Jonah 3:8-10]
 - ✧ Repent! Remains the call for people throughout the Great Tribulation, where it is stressed that God is looking for Repentance. [Revelation 9:20-21, 16:8-9, 10-11]

God does not desire the loss of one

- ✧ Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. [Matthew 18:14, 2 Peter 3:9, John 3:14-16, Ezekiel 18:32]

