



The Gospel of Mark
The Reality of Hell

Mark 9:42-50

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God's severity is not as warm and fuzzy as God's kindness, but it is real and it needs to be discussed and taught. Similar to teaching your children on the dangers of the street and the dangers of the swimming pool, so it is not love to not warn men and women about the severity of God.

According to the Scriptures, every good blessing is a gift from God almighty, which means that everything that brings comfort, joy, pleasure, and peace are all gifts from the Father to even escape the reality of Hell at the last judgment. The Bible says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." **Romans 6:23** "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" **Romans 3:23** Some day all of us will stand trial for all disobedience that we have or have not done as it says in **2 Corinthians 5:10** "*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*"

Mark 9:42-50

"If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea. **43** If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. **44** 'the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.' **45** And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. **46** 'the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.' **47** And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, **48** where "the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.' **49** Everyone will be salted with fire. **50** "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other."

- Christians are to AVOID causing other believers to STUMBLE.
- Hell is UNENDING. There are no SECOND chances after death.
- HELL will be worse than we can imagine.

1. Hell is an ETERNAL place of TORMENT.

*“Jesus says that it’s a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth” **Matthew 8:12***

*“And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night; those who worship the beast and his image.” **Revelation 14:11***

“And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.”

Revelation 20:10

“The word Gehenna is used by Jesus twelve times in the four gospels. God’s first response to the belittlement of his name is this Greek word Gehenna, which we would translate “hell”. The interesting thing about the word Gehenna is that it is reference to a ravine in the south side of Jerusalem where, about a hundred years before Jesus was born, there were these really odd kinds of Blair-Witch-like murders going on. The Jews began to view this area as cursed. It basically became a trash heap or a dumping ground for Jerusalem. When the pile got too big, they just set the whole thing on fire.”

The Explicit Gospel by Matt Chandler

2. The word Gehenna conjures up that Hell is a stinky, smoldering place of DESTRUCTION and NEGLECT.

- SIN escorts each PERSON to this place of Hell.
- SIN destroys, DISTRACTS, and ultimately leads to spiritual DEATH.

3. Hell is the place of God’s JUSTIFIABLE WRATH.

Luke 16:19-26 says,

“There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20 And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21 who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. 22 The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side.[a] The rich man also died and was buried, 23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. 24 And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger

in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'"

- Hell is the absence of God's GOODNESS and BLESSEDNESS.
- We must HATE Sin the way God HATES Sin.
- All receive what they chose, to be WITH God forever or to be WITHOUT Him.

Christians are preserve the life of one another — not to lead one another into temptation or into stumbling but away from destruction. This is what God did by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer and die for you and for me. He chose you, while you were still sinners, Christ died for you! At the cross we see where God hated sin so much but loved us so much, he chose to sacrifice his Son while still displaying the immense love a Father has toward his son. Only he can save you from the reality of hell and give you access to the eternity of heaven. Consider Christ's gift of salvation and receive it today.