

# CHRIST'S CALL TO RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP

Sunday, July 16, 2023 -- GOSPEL OF MARK series -- Msg 42 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

## MARK 9:42-50

English Standard Version (ESV)

**42** "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. **43** And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. **45** And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. **47** And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, **48** 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' **49** For everyone will be salted with fire. **50** Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

## BACKGROUND & CONTEXT:

- 1) In Mark 8 we see that Jesus turned His ministry toward \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) In Mark chapters 8, 9, and 10 we see a repeating sequence:
  - There is a display of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ (miracle),  
(8:22-25; 9:14-29; 10:46-52)
  - There is a declaration of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ and resurrection,  
(8:31-33; 9:30-32; 10:32-34)
  - There is a description of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_.  
(8:34-38; 9:33-50; 10:35-45)
- 3) The term 'little ones' sometimes refers to \_\_\_\_\_ children.  
Most of the time it refers to \_\_\_\_\_ children (believers, fellow Christians).
- 4) Religion or *Cultural Christianity* produces FALSE, '\_\_\_\_\_' Christians.  
Repentance and faith or *Biblical Christianity* produces TRUE, \_\_\_\_\_ Christians.

## STUDYING THE TEXT:

- 1) Notice verse 44 and verse 46 are removed from the ESV translation we use.  
**Why?** Because they do not appear in most of the more ancient manuscripts.  
(a repetition of verse 48 "where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched")
- 2) Notice the pattern of these verses...  
An \_\_\_\_\_ followed by \_\_\_\_\_ consequences.

vs 42	cause _____ to sin	--->	drowning in the sea	--->	better than hell
vs 43	_____ causes you to sin	--->	cut it off	--->	better than hell
vs 45	_____ causes you to sin	--->	cut it off	--->	better than hell
vs 47	_____ causes you to sin	--->	gouge it out	--->	better than hell
- 3) Notice the unmitigated \_\_\_\_\_ of sin and reality of \_\_\_\_\_.

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4) Verse 42 -- Leading \_\_\_\_\_ to sin is a very, very serious offense to God.

- by your ungodly
- by your selfish (your rudeness, aloofness, laziness, anger, etc)
- by your tempting /enticement
- by your poisonous (gossip, rebellion, strife, false teaching)

**ROMANS 14:13, 21**

*13 Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.*  
*21 It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble.*

**HEBREWS 10:23-25**

*23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

5) Verses 43-47 is Christ's call to actively, seriously \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) your sin.

**COLOSSIANS 3:5-10**

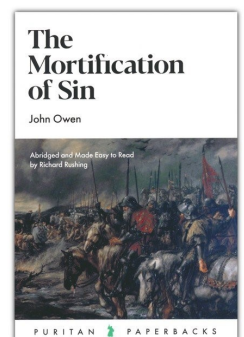
*5 **Put to death** therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming. 7 In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now **you must put them all away:** anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have **put off the old self with its practices** 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.*

**ROMANS 8:13**

*For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*



Puritan John Owen (1616-1683) -- The \_\_\_\_\_ of Sin



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**6) Notice that Jesus (the Creator-Savior God) is warning you of \_\_\_\_\_.** vs 43-48

- The world and even much of 'Christianity' may be in denial about the reality of hell, but \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Gehenna** (hell) appears \_\_\_\_\_ times in the NT... \_\_\_\_\_ times used by Christ.
- Jesus calls us to either deal radically with our sin or be cast into the pit of hell...  
     *the outer darkness* (Matthew 8:12)  
     *the furnace of fire* (Matthew 13:42)  
     *where there will be a weeping and gnashing of teeth* (Matthew 22:13)
- The truly saved will \_\_\_\_\_ with their sin.

**7) Notice that \_\_\_\_\_ will be salted with fire.** vs 49

- **The saved** will be \_\_\_\_\_ through Christ's purifying death and their identification (repentance, faith and obedience) with it.
- **The lost** will be \_\_\_\_\_ through Christ's judgment and destruction.  
     (see Genesis 19:24-26 and Deuteronomy 29:22-28)

**8) Be \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ!** vs 50

- Don't \_\_\_\_\_ with sin and worldliness.
- Instead, \_\_\_\_\_ with all your life.

By this you will experience God's \_\_\_\_\_ and it will show in your peace and relationships with the people around you.

**MATTHEW 5:13-16**

*13 "You are the **salt** of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.*

*14 "You are the **light** of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

**ROMANS 8:13**

*For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but **if by the Spirit** you put to death the deeds of the body, \_\_\_\_\_.*