

MARK

THE JESUS I NEVER KNEW

Mark 9:42-50 p. 845

Can sermons on hell be too frequent or too frightening?

Fire and Sin

The Horror of Hell

The Seriousness of Sin

The Requirement of Repentance

Fire and Salt

Salt is good... so don't lose your saltiness
(don't be conformed to this world)

Salt is good ...so have salt in yourselves
(be transformed by the renewing of your minds)

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions, but try to discuss/study some in each category.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

Read 9:42-50

1. What stood out from the sermon on Sunday?
2. What major themes do you remember from the sermon?
3. In vs. 42, Jesus uses a child to illustrate the priority of eternal life over physical life. How does this connect to how He has used the illustration of a child in vs. 36-37?
4. Many people see Jesus as only kind and positive all the time. In what ways does this passage inform or correct this incomplete view of Jesus? In what ways does this challenge your perception of Jesus?
5. The word for hell Jesus uses in this passage is "gehenna" which is the actual name of the ever burning dump outside Jerusalem. How does this picture of hell help us to understand the reference to "the worm does not die" and "the fire is not quenched" in vs. 48?
6. What does this passage tell us about the horror of hell?
7. How does this teaching show us the seriousness of sin?
8. Why is real repentance required in light of the horror of hell and seriousness of sin?
9. According to Jesus, what does a real repentance look like?
10. How does Mark 7:20-23 (specifically the "out of the heart" phrase) help us understand what Jesus doesn't mean by "cut off..." and "tear out"?
11. What does He mean to say about the heart behind radical reformation?
12. In the sermon, we learned that the Old Testament background on salting sacrifices before burning them helps us understand what Jesus means in vs. 49. How does this connect to what Paul says in Romans 12:1-2 about being a living sacrifice?
13. How is this radical outward reformation the evidence of inward repentance? How does this keep us from concluding that salvation is the result of what we do rather than what Christ has done?
14. The application for the disciples was "to make peace with one another" referring to their recent arguments about being the greatest. How might Jesus' command to "have salt in yourselves" apply to your current spiritual condition? Is it the same or different than these disciples?

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