

Matthew 18:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

Analysis

This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

Historical Context

This verse originates in Jesus' ministry during a pivotal period. The first-century Jewish context included Roman occupation, Pharisaic religious authority, and messianic expectations. Understanding these factors illuminates the passage's significance.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ?
2. What false beliefs or practices does this text correct?
3. How should you share this truth with others?

Interlinear Text

Eἰ	δὲ	ἢ	χεῖρας	σοῦ·	ἢ	ό	πόδας	σοῦ·
if	Wherefore	G3588	hand	thy	or	G3588	feet	thy
G1487	G1161		G5495	G4675	G2228		G4228	G4675
σκανδαλίζει	σε	ἔκκοψον	αὐτὰ	καὶ	βληθῆναι	ἀπὸ		
offend thee	thee	cut	them	and	cast	them from		
G4624	G4571	G1581	G846	G2532	G906	G575		
σοῦ·	καλόν	σοι	ἐστὶν	εἰσελθεῖν	εἰς	τὴν	ζωὴν	χωλόν,
thy	better	for thee	it is	to enter into	into	G3588	life	halt
G4675	G2570	G4671	G2076	G1525	G1519		G2222	G5560
ἢ	κυλλόν,	ἢ	δύο	χεῖρας	ἢ	δύο	πόδας	ἔχοντα
or	maimed	or	two	hand	or	two	feet	having
G2228	G2948	G2228	G1417	G5495	G2228	G1417	G4228	G2192
βληθῆναι	εἰς	τὸ	πῦρ	τὸ	αἰώνιον			
cast	into	G3588	fire	G3588	everlasting			
G906	G1519		G4442		G166			

Additional Cross-References

Romans 13:12 (Parallel theme): The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

Revelation 20:15 (Parallel theme): And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 14:10 (Parallel theme): The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he

shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

Ezekiel 18:31 (Parallel theme): Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Revelation 21:8 (Parallel theme): But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Isaiah 33:14 (Eternal Life): The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?

Matthew 25:41 (Eternal Life): Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Matthew 25:46 (Eternal Life): And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Luke 14:33 (Parallel theme): So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.