

# Matthew 18:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

## Analysis

Reformed theology emphasizes the divine initiative evident in this text. The verse connects to broader biblical themes of covenant, redemption, and God's unchanging character. Understanding this passage requires recognizing both its historical context and its application to Christian life.

## Historical Context

First-century Palestine was marked by religious fervor and political tension. The passage reflects interactions between Jesus and various groups: Pharisees, Sadducees, disciples, and crowds. Each audience received teaching tailored to their needs and spiritual condition.

## Related Passages

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## 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

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καὶ εἰ ὁ ὄφθαλμοὺς σοῦ· σκανδαλίζει σε ἔξελε  
And if G3588 eye thee offend thee out  
G2532 G1487 G3788 G4675 G4624 G4571 G1807

αὐτὸν καὶ βληθῆναι ἀπὸ σοῦ· καλόν σοι ἔστιν  
it And cast it from thee better for thee it is  
G846 G2532 G906 G575 G4675 G2570 G4671 G2076

μονόφθαλμον εἰς τὴν ζωὴν εἰσελθεῖν ἢ δύο  
with one eye into G3588 life to enter rather than two  
G3442 G1519 G2222 G1525 G2228 G1417

ὄφθαλμοὺς ἔχοντα βληθῆναι εἰς τὴν γέενναν τοῦ πυρός  
eye having cast into G3588 hell G3588 fire  
G3788 G2192 G906 G1519 G1067 G4442

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 18:8** (Parallel theme): 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.

**Acts 14:22** (Parallel theme): Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

**Matthew 5:22** (Parallel theme): But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

**Revelation 21:27** (Parallel theme): And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

**Matthew 5:29** (Parallel theme): And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

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