

Please, Don't Be Offended!

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MARK 9:38-50

Intro. **A.** Jesus had over-heard His disciples in a heated debate.

- Vs. 34
1. They disputed who would be the greatest.
 2. They had thoroughly discussed it.

B. He stated a principle of service.

- Vs. 35
1. If you desire to be first there are two things you must do. They are:
(1). You must be last of all. (2). you must be a "deacon" to all. (servant).

Vs. 36-37

2. you must be willing to serve the toddlers.

C. While Jesus was holding the little child in His arms, John told Him of an incident that had offended him.

- Vs. 38
1. He saw a person casting out devils. in the name of Jesus, he was not a follower of Jesus.
 2. The disciples had forbade him.
 3. John and others were offended for Jesus' sake. They meant to protect His honor, defend His policies.

I. Jesus Explained His Answer.

A "Forbid him not:"

1. κωλύω = "to cut off", "to weaken" "to restrain"
2. Jesus had specifically stated earlier that His disciples must come after Him. 8:34
3. "... for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me".
4. "Miracle" = δύναμις = "power to do anything".
5. "lightly" = ταχὺ = "quickly, with haste"

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- B.** If your walk is scandalous.
vs. 45 1. The foot is our transportation.
46^d 2. Where we go may be a hindrance.

- C.** If what you watch is scandalous.
vs. 47 1. We may be hindered by what we want
48^a to look at.
2. There are such addictions.

- D.** A preview of hell.
1. "hell fire" = Gehenna = Valley of Hinnom, was the scene of Moloch worship. It was the place where the refuse and trash of Jerusalem was burned. Dead bodies were rotting there, there was constant smoke and fire. This was a symbol of the place of departed unbelievers.

IV. Do Not Become So Fearful of Offending That you Will Not Boldly Speak The Truth.

- A.** Every person will be judged.
vs. 49a 1. "... everyone shall be salted with fire...".
2. "every man's work shall be tried..."

- B.** Every sacrifice that is true will be accepted and rewarded.
vs. 49b 1. "... every sacrifice shall be salted with salt".
2. Lev. 2:13

- C.** Do not be intimidated.
vs. 50 1. To speak frankly and truthfully is good.
2. Do not lose this from your speech for it cannot be re-gained.
3. Eph. 4:29, Col. 4:6