

SOTM pt2 – Structured to Win – How Not To Lose in Hell

[Mat 5:29-30 NASB95] 29 "If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 "If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.

- Winning involves knowing what will cause us to lose. Sports: Scoring is good, but turning the ball over to the opponent will cause you to lose the game.
- Jesus talks about what will cause us to lose in hell.

What do we need to do about the subject of hell in Matthew 5?

There are three things to know and three things to do to avoid hell in Matthew 5.

I. Jesus wants us to know these three things about not going to hell.

a. We need to take hell seriously.

b. We need to deal aggressively with sin issues in our life.

c. God does not want us to go to hell. [2Pe 3:9 NASB95] 9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

II. Jesus wants us to do these three things to avoid hell.

a. Live with the fear of God in your heart.

i. Jesus said to fear God. [Mat 10:28-29 NASB95] 28 "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And [yet] not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

ii. Part of a Spirit-filled life. [Isa 11:2 NASB95] 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

b. Take aggressive steps.

i. Suggested steps

1. Seek God. Set Jesus as Lord of your life. [Rom 10:9-10 NASB95] 9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus [as] Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

2. Know the Word. [Psa 119:9 NASB95] 9 Beth. How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping [it] according to Your word.

3. Repent quickly. [1Jo 1:8-9 NASB95] 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

4. Sacrifice. Remove things and people. Live accountably.

c. Know that God is for you.

i. He loves you. [Rom 2:4 NASB95] 4 Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

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- ii. He empowers you. [Rom 8:13 NASB95] 13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.
- **God wants us to avoid losing in hell as we develop a healthy fear of God while taking aggressive steps to remove sin from our lives, knowing God loves us and will help us.**