

Matthew Series

Lesson #103

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Dean Bible Ministries

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MATTHEW

JESUS: KING OF THE JEWS

Grace Initiative:

Forgiveness and Restoration

Matthew 18:10–13

Matt. 18:5, “Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.

Matt. 18:6, “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin [σκανδαλίζω, *skandalizō*], it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.”

Rom. 9:33, “As it is written:

**‘Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone
[*proskomma*]
and rock of offense [*skandalon*],**

**And whoever believes on Him will not be put to
shame.’ ”**

skandalizo

to bring someone to a downfall through the acceptance of false teaching, or to sin.

skandalon

to influence someone into wrong beliefs or to wrong action.

In these Matt. 18 examples the focus is not just a simple sin, but to lead them far astray, to completely derail their spiritual growth through false teaching or sinful thoughts or actions.

Matt. 18:7, “Woe to the world because of offenses [*skandalon*]! For offenses [*skandalon*] must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense [*skandalon*] comes!”

Matt. 18:8, “If your hand or foot causes you to sin [σκανδαλίζω, *skandalizō*], cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire.

Matt. 18:9, “And if your eye causes you to sin [σκανδαλίζω, *skandalizō*], pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.”

Matt. 18:10, “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven.”

καταφρονέω *kataphroneō*

aor act subj 2 plur

to despise someone, to show

**contempt or disregard for someone as
if they are irrelevant**

Matt. 18:11, “For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.” [Luke 19:10]

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In context:

save = rescue from the stumbling

lost = perishing. Can be eternal, but often also used for temporal spiritual failure.

ἀπόλλυμι *apollumi* to destroy, ruin; to lose

Matt. 18:12, “What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying?”

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πλανάω *planaō*
aor pass subj 3
sing to go astray,
wander off, to
deceive

**Shepherd/Owner = God the Father/Lord
Jesus Christ**

**Straying Sheep = the disciple caused to
stumble/sin or be led astray by false
teaching; “these little ones” Matt. 18:14**

John 10:11, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

John 10:12, “But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them.

John 10:13, “The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep.”

John 10:14, “I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.

John 10:15, “As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.”

Psa. 23:1, “The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. [GOD supplies our needs.]”

Psa. 23:2, “He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.”

Psa. 23:3, “He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.”

Psa. 23:4, “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Psa. 23:5, “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Psa. 23:6, “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”

**Ezek. 34:11, “For thus says the Lord GOD:
‘Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and
seek them out.**

**Ezek. 34:12, “ ‘As a shepherd seeks out his
flock on the day he is among his scattered
sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and
deliver them from all the places where they
were scattered on a cloudy and dark day.**

**Ezek. 34:13, “ ‘And I will bring them out from
the peoples and gather them from the
countries, and will bring them to their own
land; I will feed them on the mountains of
Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited
places of the country.’ ”**

Ezek. 34:14, “ ‘I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

Ezek. 34:15, “ ‘I will feed My flock, and I will make them lie down,’ says the Lord GOD.

Ezek. 34:16, “ ‘I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick; but I will destroy the fat and the strong, and feed them in judgment.’ ”

Matt. 18:13, “And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.”