

The Unpardonable Sin Blasphemy Against The Holy Spirit

In Real Estate there are three things that are most important when considering a purchase. They are: location, location and location. Such is the case when trying to decipher the meaning of a passage or teaching in scripture. The three things to consider are: context, context and context. First we need to look at some background information on **Jesus Himself**.

Mat 3:16 And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: **17** And lo a voice from heaven, saying, **This is My beloved Son**, in Whom I am well pleased.

Luk 4:1 And Jesus being **full of the Holy Ghost** returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

Joh 3:34 For He Whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God **giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him**.

- Before **His baptism Jesus did not possess any of the gifts of the Holy Spirit**. It was only after **His baptism when He became the Son of Man that He acquired the limitless power of the Spirit thus without measure**.

Joh 2:11 This **beginning of miracles** did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and **manifested** forth His glory; and **His disciples believed on Him**.

- The prime purpose of **Jesus performing these miracles was to convince those present that He came from God and not man**. In other words, they established **His credibility**.

Joh 2:23 Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, in the feast *day*, many believed in His name, when they saw the **miracles** which **He** did.

Joh 12:37 But though He had done so many **miracles** before them, yet they believed not on Him:

Joh 12:42 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on Him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *Him*, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: **43** For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

- Some believed because of the miracles, some those miracles didn't convince that **Jesus was Who He said He was**, and still others believed **He was Who He said He was** but were more concerned about their status in the synagogue.

1Co 14:22 Wherefore tongues are **for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not**: but prophesying *serveth* not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.

What the unpardonable sin is not!

Act 2:36 Therefore let all the **house of Israel** know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, **Whom ye have crucified**, both Lord and Christ. **37** Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do? **38** Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

- Even participating in the crucifixion of Christ was pardonable.

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **20** Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **21** Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, **and such like**: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

1Co 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, **10** Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. **11** And such **were some of you: but ye are washed**, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

- Even the list of sins that Paul mentioned numerous times in his letters to the church, "*and such like*", could be pardoned.
- Paul himself became an apostle of Christ even after he was a blasphemer who persecuted the church but was pardoned anyway.

Act 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his (*Steven's*) death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. **2** And devout men carried Stephen *to his burial*, and made great lamentation over him. **3** As for Saul, **he made havock of the church**, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison.

1Ti 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; **13** Who was before a **blasphemer**, and a persecutor, and injurious: **but I obtained mercy**, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief.

What about the "sin unto death"?

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from **all sin**. **8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (*Does the Bible contradict itself?*)

1Jn 5:16 If any man see his brother sin a sin *which is not unto death*, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a **sin unto death**: I do not say that he shall pray for it. 17 **All unrighteousness is sin**: and there is a sin not unto death.

- Thus, the sin unto death is "...any sin for which a person will not take the proper steps demanded by God to receive the forgiveness available."

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What the unpardonable sin is (was).

Mat 12:22 Then was brought unto Him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and He healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. 23 And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David? 24 But **when the Pharisees heard it, they said**, This *fellow* doth not cast out devils, **but by Beelzebub (another name for Satan) the prince of the devils**. 25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, **Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: 26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? 27 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God (the church) is come unto you. 29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. 30 He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad. 31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. 32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.**

- "in this world, neither in the world to come." (Mk 3:29 "eternal damnation" / Lk 12:10 "shall not be forgiven") Jesus is here stating that this particular sin has no chance of ever being forgiven! All others can be.

Mar 3:28 Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: 29 But he that shall **blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness**, but is in danger of **eternal damnation**: 30 **Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.**

Luk 12:10 And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that **blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven.**

- **G988** βλασφημία blasphēmia *blas-fay-me'-ah*
 From **G989**; vilification (especially against God): - blasphemy, **evil speaking**, railing.
- Blasphemy is a "spoken sin" (as in Matt 12:32 "*against the Holy Ghost*"). It **was** the "unpardonable sin" when spoken against the Holy Spirit by claiming Jesus

cast out the demons by **Beelzebub**. They **witnessed** a miracle but **gave the credit** to **Satan** and not to **God**.

 "As was noted earlier, blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is the only sin in the Bible given the status of unpardonable or eternal. In fact, Jesus prefaced His discussion of this sin by stating that, '**every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men,**' **except** for blasphemy against the Spirit. Using the working definition of blasphemy as '**speaking evil of,**' it becomes clear that the sin described by Jesus as a '**tongue sin**' that the Pharisees committed, or at least were dangerously close to committing."

"What had the Pharisees done that would have put them in jeopardy of committing the unpardonable sin? According to His own testimony, during Jesus' time on this Earth He cast out demons by the '**Spirit of God**' (**Matthew 12:28**). When the Pharisees saw that Jesus had performed a verifiable miracle, they could not argue the fact that Christ possessed certain powers that others (**including themselves**) did not have. Therefore, in order to cast suspicion on the ministry of Jesus, they claimed He was casting out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of demons. The name Beelzebub is simply another name for Satan, as can be seen from Jesus' reference to Satan in **Matthew 12:26**. Even when faced by the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit through Jesus, the Pharisees were, in essence, attributing Jesus' power to Satan, and claiming that Jesus was Satan incarnate instead of God incarnate. It is this, and nothing else, that our Lord calls the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost." **Apologetics Press 2003-Kyle Butt, M.A.**

----- Can the "unpardonable" sin be committed today?

1Co 12:4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

- The gift given depended on what **Holy Spirit** saw as necessary to the growth of the kingdom, the church.

1Co 12:8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of **wisdom** (*Gk.4678-[in this case] spiritual*); to another the word of **knowledge** by the same Spirit; **9** To another **faith** by the same Spirit (*Mk 9:24*); to another the gifts of **healing** by the same Spirit; **10** To another the **working of miracles**; to another **prophecy** (*Gk.4394-prediction*); to another **discerning** (*Gk.1253-disputation*) **of spirits** (*Gk.4151-[here] vital principal*) [*as in 1 Jn 4:1*]; to another *divers* (*not in the original text but added to clarify the context*) kinds of **tongues** (*Gk.1100-glossa [from which we get the word glossary]-language*) (*unlearned languages given to those that were going into foreign fields*); to another the **interpretation** (*Gk.2058-translation*) **of tongues** (*given to those aiding others with the gift of unlearned languages*): **11** But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

1Co 13:8 Charity (*love*) never faileth: but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail (*Gk.2673-to be entirely idle, useless*); whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* knowledge (*again, without formal training but by the Holy Spirit*), it shall vanish away. **9** For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. **10** But when that (*not He*) which is perfect (*the completed, canonized word of God*) is come, then that (*miracles which helped confirm the message then*) which is in part (*Gk.3313-to get as a section or allotment*) shall be done away.

- At this point we can state that miracles, as defined **Biblically**, do not exist today and haven't since the **Bible**, both **Old** and **New Testaments**, was compiled in the form we have today. That form is the "codex" form and "*may very well be a Christian innovation...at least...were the first to make extensive use of the codex*".
Neil R. Lightfoot, *How We Got The Bible* (pages 21-23)
- The word for book in the common **Greek**, which was the common language of the **New Testament** writers, was (Gk.975) "**biblion**" from which we get the word "**Bible**".

"First, the circumstances under which the sin is described cannot prevail today, due to the fact that the age of miracles has ceased. No one today will have the opportunity to witness Jesus performing miracles in person."

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2Co 5:16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have **known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we Him no more.**

"Second, there is no other mention of the sin in any biblical passage written after the resurrection of Christ. None of the inspired New Testament writers refers to the sin in any epistle or in the book of Acts, and none offers warnings to new converts about avoiding the sin post-Pentecost."

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The unpardonable sin (blasphemy against the **Holy Spirit**) cannot be committed in this age. It was a specific sin during a specific time in history. There is not a sin that can be committed today that cannot be covered by the blood of **Christ**, period!

SO...

If you have any sin in your life that has not been washed away by obedience to **God's** will, even though you can't commit the unpardonable sin today, any sin that's not covered by the blood of **Christ** will not be pardoned.

#1.You've heard

Luk 11:28 Jesus said, "... **blessed** are **they that hear the word of God, and keep it.**"

#2.Do you believe

Eph 1:13 In Whom ye also *trusted*, **after** that ye **heard** the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in Whom also **after** that ye **believed**, ye were **sealed** with that holy Spirit of promise, **14** Who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.

#3.Will you repent

Mat 9:13 "... **I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**"

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

#4.Will you acknowledge Christ as the Son of God

Mat 10:32 "**Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father Who is in heaven.**"

#5.Will you have your sins washed away

Act 2:37 Now when they **heard** *this*, they were pricked in their heart (*because they believed what they heard*), and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, **what shall we do?**

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, “**Repent, and be baptized** every one of you **in the name of Jesus Christ** (*acknowledging His “Sonship”*) **for** the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (*the “earnest of our inheritance”*)”.

#6. Once you've done all these things, will you remain faithful

1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye **steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord**, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

#7. Will you resolve to keep growing

Php 1:9 And this I pray, that your love may **abound** yet **more and more in knowledge** and *in* all judgment; 10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may **be sincere** and without offence till the day of Christ; 11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

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