

Matthew 12:31-32 The Unpardonable Sin

Introduction: The word “Ghost” is better translated “Spirit.” Jesus said that all manner of sin and blasphemy may be forgiven, but there is one sin that cannot be pardoned---not ever.

I. A look at the context.

- A. Jesus cast a demon out of a man, verse 22.
- B. The multitude highly praised Jesus, verse 23.
- C. But the Pharisees accused Him of casting out the demon by the power of Beelzebub or Satan, verse 24.
- D. Jesus pointed out that He had cast the demon out by the power of the Holy Spirit, verses 27-28.
- E. Thus the Pharisees had called the Holy Spirit “Beelzebub” or Satan.
 1. This is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.
 2. If it isn't then what would you have to say against Him to blaspheme Him?
- F. Hence Jesus issued the statement in our text.

II. A few observations of what the unpardonable sin is not.

- A. It is not “unbelief.”
 1. We have all been guilty of unbelief.
 2. If unbelief were unpardonable none of us could have ever been saved.
 3. Unbelief is pardonable if one repents and believes.
- B. It is not “resisting the Holy Spirit.”
 1. If the unsaved did not resist the Holy Spirit he would get saved the first time he comes under the gospel and under conviction.
 2. If resisting the Holy Spirit were unpardonable, the sinner would have to get saved the first time he comes under conviction or he could never be saved at all.
- C. It is not “saying 'No' to the Holy Spirit”; not even “the final 'No.'”
 1. This sin will send a man to hell and in hell all sin is unpardonable.
 2. But this is not the unpardonable sin spoken of in our text.
 3. If saying “No” to the Spirit were the unpardonable sin then it would be unpardonable the very first time.
- D. It is not “suicide.”
 1. Many people grieve needlessly about the destiny of a saved loved one who has committed suicide. (They are afraid that he lost his salvation.)
 2. Suicide is not blasphemy. (A sin, but not blasphemy.)
 3. The blood of Jesus takes care of all sin, 1 John 1:7.

III. What Jesus said the unpardonable sin is.

- A. He said that it is a sin that under no circumstances will ever be forgiven.
- B. He said that it is “blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.”
 1. The word “blasphemy” means “to speak viciously against God or sacred things.”
 2. The way the Pharisees did it was by calling the Holy Spirit “Satan.”

IV. An unnecessary fear on the part of the saved.

- A. Some of the saved fear that they may commit the unpardonable sin and lose their salvation.
- B. What they fail to realize is that the saved cannot commit the unpardonable sin.

1. The inward spirit of the saved has been born again by the Holy Spirit and he has the Holy Spirit dwelling within.
2. The indwelling Holy Spirit will not let him blaspheme the Holy Spirit.
3. In fact this inward new nature cannot commit any sin, 1 John 3:9.

V. A warning to the unsaved.

- A. This text certainly warns the unsaved not to blaspheme the Holy Spirit, but it also issues another warning.
- B. One who fails to get forgiveness of the pardonable sins will burn in hell the same as those who commit the unpardonable sin
- C. It is not the unpardonable sin which sends most folks to hell, but the failure to repent and trust in Jesus Christ.

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