



THE VOICE OF EVANGELISM INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

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WHAT IS THE UNPARDONABLE SIN?

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We want to take our Scripture text today from **Matthew 12:31-32**, **"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. 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."** Without a doubt, the one question I most often receive from individuals is: "have I committed the unpardonable sin"? The word unpardonable means a fault or offense too severe to be pardoned or a fault that is unforgivable. There is only one unpardonable sin and that is the sin of blasphemy. To fully understand the unpardonable sin we must first understand the meaning of the word blasphemy. The Greek word for blasphemy is #988 *blasphemeo* and it means: *to revile, to hurt the reputation or smite anyone with reports by evil words, it ultimately means to contribute the works of the Holy Spirit to the devil.* This was the sin of the Pharisees found here in Matthew chapter 12 from whence we took our Scripture text. The Pharisees were attacking Jesus because He had cast out a devil in a man which caused the man to be blind and dumb. This man having been possessed with a demon was set free by the power of the Holy Ghost, but the Pharisees contributed the deliverance to the prince of devils,

Beelzebub. These Pharisees personified blasphemy by saying the very works that Jesus Christ was doing were of the devil and not of Jehovah. If you do not understand the gifts of the Holy Spirit, I encourage you to never speak evil of the Holy Ghost if you do not understand the operation of the Spirit. The question that needs to be addressed is: can people ever sin so badly that God cannot forgive them? The answer is yes and no. It is important to realize the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on Calvary's cross paid for all of the sin of the world. John the Baptist declared in **John 1:29**, **"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."** There is no sin that the blood of Jesus Christ cannot overcome or cleanse. That means no one ever has to fear going beyond the scope of our Lord's grace and power. Sometimes people despair because they have committed a certain sin that to them seems to be unforgivable. But no matter what their failure has been God can and will forgive their sin if they come to him in repentance. This is why it is so imperative when the Holy Spirit begins to deal with anyone about their sin that they yield to the leadership of the Holy Ghost when he leads them to repentance. It is the office of the Holy Ghost that seeks to bring men to repentance. The apostle Paul declared in **Romans 2:4**, **"Not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"** Before anyone is redeemed, the Holy

Spirit begins to deal with them and convince them they are wrong, they are sinners, and they need to make things right with God. The office of the Holy Ghost separates man so Christ might redeem them. Let us look at the office and work of the Holy Ghost: He first convicts men of their sins, which ultimately convinces them of the sin within their diseased spirit. To authenticate the act of sanctification or the setting a part of the individual before salvation we must read **2nd Thessalonians 2:13**, **"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning (before the foundations of the world) chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth."** It is the office of the Holy Ghost to cause everyone to believe in the truth. There are two parts to this truth: the truth of God's Word and the truth of the Holy Spirit. When God the Father sends the Holy Ghost to deal with anyone they should respond correctly, because no one ever knows if God the Father will seek to draw them another time. Jesus declared in **John 6:44**, **"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."** The word draw, here in the Greek means to literally *drag* someone to Christ. This is exactly what the Holy Ghost does, he first convicts, he then convinces, and then draws men to Jesus. To show you the

manifest power of the Holy Ghost, the jailer in Acts chapter 16, was so convicted when the Holy Ghost burst asunder the prison doors he cried out with a loud voice to Paul and Silas and questioned them here in **Acts 16:30, "Sirs what must I do to be saved?"** Only by the power of the Holy Ghost could this Gentile jailer want to know what it would take for him to be born again. No matter what the sin, God can and will forgive any man of their sins if they will come to him in repentance. The jailer responded correctly to the manifest power of the Spirit of God and gave his heart to Jesus. It is possible however to willfully place one's self beyond the grace of God-to persist in rebellion and sin and resist his call to repentance: this is essentially what the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders did far too often. Jesus, having healed this demon-possessed man by the power of the Holy Ghost, was then challenged by his enemies when they claimed he had cast out the demon by the power of Satan, Beelzebub. This accusation was outward evidence they had rejected Christ as the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world. When they slandered the Holy Ghost it revealed their spiritual blindness. They were warping and distorting the ministry of Jesus Christ and turning His ministry into demonic activity, which ultimately revealed their spiritual blindness and moral nature. This act of blasphemy put them beyond any hope of forgiveness and repentance. It is very important to note that Jesus declared if anyone spoke a word against the Son of Man it would be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, not in this world, neither in the world to come. What unfathomable mercy

and grace God the Father suffers or allows anyone when it comes to harming Christ. However, when it comes to speaking evil against the Holy Ghost there is zero tolerance. For those who cry out like the tax collector there is mercy and grace: look with me please as we witness the publican as he cried out in **Luke 18:13, "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner."** Instead of slandering the work of the Holy Ghost while praying, the tax collector recognized his sins by the convicting power of the Holy Ghost. His plea was for mercy and grace because he understood his sinful nature. This publican went home justified because the Holy Ghost revealed to him his sins and helped him deal with them. Those who, like the Pharisee in the same parable trust in their own self-righteousness, reject Christ, and slander the Holy Ghost. By the manifest power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was able to reveal the spiritual cancer that was so advanced within these Pharisees. Regretfully, they were beyond any hope of spiritual healing and forgiveness. If the Holy Spirit of God is dealing with you today about your sins, I encourage you to find a place and get on your knees and acknowledge your need for His touch. The very fact that the Holy Spirit is dealing with you is because He loves you and He wants you to be in a divine relationship with himself. Jesus said in **John 6:37, "All that the Father hath given me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."** The divine invitation still stands today: whosoever will, let them call upon the name of the Lord and they shall be saved? I love that old gospel song which declares,

"There Is Room at the Cross for You." There is always room at the Masters table for one more to come and dine with Him as the spirit leads to repentance. Every one of us is a type of Mephibosheth. You see, Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul and he was a cripple. But David being symbolic of a type of Jesus Christ, having found out that Mephibosheth was a cripple and had no family declared that he would eat bread at the Kings table daily. When Mephibosheth entered into the Kings house he declared in **2nd Samuel 9:8&11, "And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon him such a dead dog as I am? As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons."** You are invited each and every day to set at the Kings table and dine with Jesus Christ the Son of God! Jesus said in **Luke 14:17, "Come; for all things now ready."** Every day as children of God, we are invited to come and set with the Master at His table. Every time we come to the Lord's table there is fresh bread. He never offers us old, stale, moldy bread. Just as the Levites had to prepare daily bread to sit upon the table of showbread, there is fresh bread for you today. Rejoice, because every sin can be forgiven in your life and you can be restored to Christ without any guilt or condemnation. As always, thank you for your love and support for the ministry.

Serving With You All,

Pastor/Evangelist David Lankford