

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN

MARK 3:22-30

Introduction: The Accusers

Mark 3:22 And the scribes
which came down from
Jerusalem said, He hath
Beelzebub, and by the prince
of the devils casteth he out
devils.

I. The Answer

Mark 3:23 And he called them
unto him, and said unto them
in parables, How can Satan
cast out Satan?

A. The Kingdom Illustration

**Mark 3:24 And if a kingdom be
divided against itself, that
kingdom cannot stand.**

B. The Household Illustration

**Mark 3:25 And if a house be
divided against itself, that
house cannot stand.**

C. The Satan Illustration

Mark 3:26 And if Satan rise up
against himself, and be
divided, he cannot stand, but
hath an end.

D. The Strong Man Illustration

Mark 3:27 No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

II. The Sin That Will Not Be Forgiven

**Mark 3:28 Verily I say unto
you, All sins shall be forgiven
unto the sons of men, and
blasphemies wherewith soever
they shall blaspheme:**

Mark 3:29 But he that shall
blaspheme against the Holy
Ghost hath never forgiveness,
but is in danger of eternal
damnation:

**Mark 3:30 Because they said,
He hath an unclean spirit.**

III. What is the “Unpardonable Sin?”

**1. Attributing the works of the
Holy Spirit to Satan.**

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

2. Attributing the works of the Holy Spirit to Satan during the time when Jesus Christ was on earth.

**This is a slight variation on the view
that we just discussed. The
Unpardonable Sin could have
happened only while Jesus Christ was
on earth, according to this view,
because the scribes saw Jesus casting
out demons; they attributed His ability
to do this to the power of Satan;**

**and this unique situation
cannot take place today,
because Jesus Christ is not
physically here casting out
demons.**

**3. Resisting the Holy Spirit until
He stops convicting.**

"And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." (Genesis 6:3)

**Hebrews 6:4 For it is
impossible for those who were
once enlightened, and have
tasted of the heavenly gift, and
were made partakers of the
Holy Ghost,**

**Hebrews 6:5 And have tasted
the good word of God, and the
powers of the world to come,**

Hebrews 6:6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

IV. Have You Committed the Unpardonable Sin?

**1. The Bible never teaches that
God will refuse to forgive
anyone who wants forgiveness.**

**“And the Spirit and the bride
say, Come. And let him that
heareth say, Come. And let him
that is athirst come. And
whosoever will, let him take the
water of life freely.”**

(Revelation 22:17)

**Some use these verses from
Hebrews to prove that God will
refuse to save a sinner who
desires to repent:**

“Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.”

(Hebrews 12:15-17)

The problem with using this story to prove that God might refuse to allow a sinner to repent is that this has nothing to do with salvation.

Esau was Jacob's brother. Jacob persuaded Esau to sell his birthright (a special privilege of the first-born son) to him for a bowl of soup.

Later, Esau wanted his father to give him the blessing that the first-born son should have received. Jacob tricked his father Isaac, into giving him the blessing instead of Esau. Esau had lost his birthright and blessing. He cried and begged for it, but he could not have it.

He could not find a place of repentance, that is, neither he nor his father could go back and undo what had been done.

This has nothing to do with Esau's salvation. It has to do with a birthright and a blessing.

2. Why would God give you a desire to be forgiven if He did not want to forgive you?

“But humble and conscientious believers at times are tempted to think they have committed the Unpardonable Sin, while those who have come the nearest to it, seldom have any fear about it. We may be sure that those who indeed repent and believe the gospel, have not committed this sin, or any other of the same kind;

for repentance and faith are the special gifts of God, which he would not bestow on any man, if he were determined never to pardon him; and those who fear they have committed this sin, give a good sign that they have not. The trembling, contrite sinner, has the witness in himself that this is not his case.” (MH)

3. If you are saved, then you cannot commit the Unpardonable Sin, because all of your sins are already pardoned.

“To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.”

(Acts 10:43)

**“Therefore being justified by
faith, we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ:”**

(Romans 5:1)

Can My Sin Be Forgiven?

No sin can be pardoned until the sinner wants forgiveness. Dr. John R. Rice wrote, “Note these truths about the unpardonable sin: (1) It is always committed only by an unsaved person, and always concerns accepting or rejecting Christ. (2) No Christian can commit it.

(3) This sin does not change Christ and His offer of mercy. It changes the sinner. One who wants to be saved has not committed this sin. He can be saved."

In conclusion, the Unpardonable Sin is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. There are different opinions as to what exactly this blasphemy is, but no matter what you believe the Bible teaches about the Unpardonable Sin, one thing is clear:

**If a person wants to be saved,
God will save him or her. No
matter what sins you have
committed, or how far you
have gone, there is hope for
you, if you will believe on the
Lord Jesus Christ!**