

DISCOVERING THE BIBLE

LESSON 29

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN

“And so I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven”

Matthew 12:31

- All kinds of sins can be forgiven
- Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit cannot be forgiven.

“But your iniquities have separated you from God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear”

Isaiah 59:2

- Sin is at heart about broken relationships.
- What is essential for salvation is a relationship with God.

“ But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God. 'Yes, it is as you say,' Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy.”

Matthew 26-63-65

- The Bible speaks of blasphemy as more than simply 'swearing'.
- Jesus declares He is the Son of God.
- The Priest recognised that it was blasphemy to declare oneself to be God—if not actually God.
- Jesus stated exactly who He was. This was a message from the Holy Spirit.
- We are putting ourselves in God's place when we set our will against God or reject the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- The Priest was rejecting the leading of the Holy Spirit.

"When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."

John 16:8-13

- The Holy Spirit reproves and convicts us of :-
- Sin — an awareness that we are doing wrong.
- Righteousness—of the lifestyle we are to live
- Judgement— That sinners are liable to judgement
- The Holy Spirit continues to guide us

"..do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."

Matthew 10:20

- In difficult circumstances the Holy Spirit will speak directly through you
- Do you see that God would be showing His direct care for you?

“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”

John 17:17

- God’s word reveals truth to us
- How has the Bible taught you?

“If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left”

Hebrews 10:26

- If we persistently refuse to accept God’s will after having been convinced of the truth there is no sacrifice for sin—no forgiveness.
- How could we commit the unpardonable sin in relation to doctrines we have studied? Salvation? Sabbath?

“You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him.”

Acts 7:51,52

- The Jews always resisted the Holy Spirit.
- They had no desire for spiritual things—for a relationship with God.
- They had no sorrow for sin and did not wish to repent.

- We can know we have NOT committed the unpardonable sin if we do feel sorrow for sin, if we do seek a relationship with God and if we seek repentance as appropriate.

"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away."

John 6:37

- If we 'come to Christ' we will never be driven away.
- What does 'coming to Christ' mean?

"In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation."

2 Corinthians 6:2

- Is there ever a time when we cannot choose Christ to be in our lives? Even now?