

Following Jesus
19, The Unpardonable Sin
Mark 3:7-30

I. Message – “The Unpardonable Sin”

a. The account of scripture – **Matthew 12:22-37; Mark 3:20-30**

i. In Mark 3, Jesus is healing and casting out demons

ii. **Mark 3:7-11**

iii. This is a remarkable time in Jesus’ ministry

1. Never before have people witnessed this kind of power in a human
2. He literally commands illness, weather, demons
3. They ALL do His bidding
4. His power is undeniably supernatural

b. The accusation of the leaders

i. As usual, Jesus is met with criticism by the religious rulers

ii. They have a strong accusation to make – that He is casting out demons by the power of Satan

iii. **“22 And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils.”**

1. If they could not believe that He was God!
2. It had to be the power of Satan
3. It had to be one or the other

c. The analysis – Jesus has a lesson for them (actually 3 lessons)

i. Lesson #1 – a kingdom divided cannot stand – v.23

1. Your assertion is illogical
2. Practical truth you don’t need a seminary degree to figure out
 - a. Governments, families
 - b. Businesses, kingdoms
 - c. These can’t have civil war and escape unharmed
3. Jesus wants to spoil Satan’s work
 - a. So, He binds Him and His minions
 - b. He is the King of kings

i. **1 John 4:4 “...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”**

ii. **Colossians 1:13 “Who hath delivered US from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:”**

iii. **Hebrews 2:8 “Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet.”**

- iv. Genesis 3:15 “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”
- v. Jesus crushed his head from the cross!
 - 1. Satan isn’t even in Jesus’ weight class
 - 2. Not even a fair fight
 - 3. He’s not even close to God in power
 - 4. Jesus can crush Him like a bug
- c. Jesus cannot work with Satan AND against him
 - i. Either these works are a deception of Satan
 - ii. OR this is God’s power defeating Satan
 - 1. And if it is of God
 - 2. It is the power of the Holy Spirit at work!
 - 3. And the kingdom is standing right in front of you – Matthew 12:28
 - a. Will you bow?
 - b. Or will you rebel?
- ii. Lesson #2 – God is a forgiving God
 - 1. “28 Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:”
 - 2. God is a forgiving God
 - a. Psalm 86:5 “For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.”
 - b. Exodus 34:6-7 “...The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, 7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin...”
 - c. God even forgave killing His son!
 - d. Luke 23:34 “Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”
 - i. You name the sin
 - ii. God can forgive that
 - iii. In fact, Jesus gets joy out of forgiving any sin!
 - 1. This is what He does!
 - 2. Hebrews 12:2 “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”
 - e. God is a forgiving God!
 - i. Surprisingly, even blasphemy!
 - ii. It still requires repentance
 - iii. It still requires faith

- iii. Lesson #3 – Blaspheming the Holy Spirit is unforgiveable! (there is a point of final rejection of Jesus)
1. “29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:”
 2. How did they do this?
 - a. They saw the supernatural work of Christ
 - b. They recognized it as supernatural
 - c. But they came to this conclusion: that is of hell, not heaven
 - d. Why was this unforgivable?
 - i. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is incompatible with repentance
 - ii. It is incompatible with faith in Christ
 - iii. It is incompatible with Lordship salvation
 3. Is this possible today?
 - a. Yes
 - b. Hebrews 6:4-6 “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, 5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, 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.”
 - i. It’s not that God was rejecting them
 - ii. It was they were rejecting God
 - iii. With the evidence they had
 - iv. There was no hope of true repentance from rejection
 - v. There comes a time for every rejector of Christ when God turns out the lights and you can’t find your way
 - vi. Hebrews 3:12-15 “Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. 13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; 15 While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.”

II. Conclusion

- a. Is there any part of your life inconsistent with the kingdom of Jesus?
- b. Do you view other sinful humans with grace and forgiveness?
- c. Have you accepted the free gift of salvation in Jesus?