

The Sin Against the Holy Spirit

Introduction

Perhaps no other subject has been more debated since the 1st century. Is it really possible to commit a sin of which one cannot repent? is it possible to ignorantly or inadvertently speak against or blaspheme the Holy Spirit? Would doing this cause one to enter a state in which one could not repent even if they wanted to? Read the text: Mt. 12:31-32; Mk. 3:28-29; Lk. 12:10. The sin against the Holy Spirit is an indication of a condition of heart which renders forgiveness impossible.

I. What this Sin is NOT.

- A. Not merely blasphemy. 1 Tim. 1:13
- B. Not Murder. 1 Jhn. 3:15
- C. Not Adultery. 1 Cor 6:9-11
- D. Not Suicide

II. The Context Surrounding the Sin Against the Holy Spirit.

- A. Matthew/Mark: Jesus' statements surround the same event.
 - 1. Mt. 12:22 - Just before: Christ entered a house & multitudes followed.
 - a) Mt. 12:23 - *could this be the Son of David?*
- B. Mt. 12:14 - Scribes/Pharisees sought to destroy Jesus.
 - 1. desperate attempt in 12:24 (Mk. 3:22) - power of Beelzebub.
 - a) Beelzebub: "Philistine god of flies. Designated the prince of all moral impurity."
- C. The Refutation: 12:25-26 - parable of division
 - a) Jesus asks "Why would Satan fight against Satan?"
 - b) Jesus was fighting Satan w/the spirit of God!
 - 2. 12:29 - Jesus speaks of the parable of the strong man.
 - a) Satan was not going to bind himself - Jesus was going to overpower Satan & destroy his goods.
 - b) 12:30 - Scribes/Pharisees sought to scatter because they opposed the Lord.
- D. The Warning.
 - 1. 12:31 - "Therefore I say **to You...**" (Also Mk. 3:28)
 - a) Jesus not giving warning to the whole multitude - but to **only the scribes/pharisees.**
 - b) they deliberately called the spirit of God Beelzebub or Satan!
 - c) As long as they **continued** to reject Christ & the H.S. they would in no way be forgiven.
 - 2. What does the passage in Lk. 12:10-11 mean?
 - a) 12:12 - they would see the power of the H.S. working in them.
 - b) If they allowed themselves to get the same heart of the Pharisees/Scribes they would meet the same fate.

III. Can this sin be committed today?

- A. No. Why?
 - 1. Direct power of the Holy Spirit is not being displayed in miracles today.
- B. 3 Passages demonstrate that we harden his heart to where forgiveness is impossible.
 - 1. Heb. 6:4-6; Heb. 10:26-27; 1 Jhn. 5:16
 - a. God will forgive all sins confessed - 1 Jhn. 1:9

Conclusion:

- A. Key to forgiveness: the condition of one's heart. How is your heart?