

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN MT. 12:31-33

We start with several introductory thoughts from the text:

1. There is forgiveness

Psalm 130:3 If thou, LORD, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? **Psalm 130:4** **But there is forgiveness with thee, That thou mayest be feared.**

Jeremiah 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: For they shall all know me, From the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: **For I will forgive their iniquity, And I will remember their sin no more.**

Micah 7:18 **Who is a God like unto thee**, that pardoneth iniquity, And passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger for ever, Because he delighteth in mercy. **Micah 7:19** He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; And thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. **Micah 7:20** Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, Which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

Acts 13:38 Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, **that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: Acts 13:39** **And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.**

2. Forgiveness for all kinds of sin!

Both before and after salvation → for the unbeliever and for believers

3. There is **also** an unpardonable sin!

Matthew 12:31 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. **Matthew 12:32** 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.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is it?

2. Who can commit it?

(3. Can it be committed today?)

4. Why is it unpardonable?

So, **what** is it?

1. It is a sin **against** the Holy Spirit.

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As opposed to a specific sin such as....

As opposed to a sin against the Father or the Son

2. It is a sin of “speaking”* against the Holy Spirit

Matthew 12:31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and **blasphemy** (βλασφημία) shall be forgiven unto men: but the **blasphemy** (βλασφημία) against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. **Matthew 12:32** 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.

Matthew 12:24 **But when the Pharisees heard it**, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils. **Matthew 12:25** **And Jesus knew their thoughts**, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:

3. It is a sin of speaking...that reflects one’s heart.

Matthew 12:34 **O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil,** speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. **Matthew 12:35** A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: **and an evil man out of**

the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. **Matthew 12:36** But I say unto you, That **every idle word** that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. **Matthew 12:37** **For** by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Pastor Warren: You can't see my heart! You don't know my heart!

In one sense absolutely true.

However, Jesus does know your heart. One's actions /words, over time, revealing one's heart.

Matthew 12:33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: **for the tree is known by his fruit.**

4. A heart sin of unbelief & rebellion!

(So, who can commit this sin?)

Matthew 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

Matthew 12:14 Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

Matthew 8:27 But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

Matthew 8:33 And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils. **Matthew 8:34** And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: **and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.**

*****Matthew 9:3** And, behold, certain of the scribes **said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.** ***

Matthew 9:8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

Matthew 9:31 But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that country.

Matthew 9:32 As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. **Matthew 9:33** And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: **and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.**

Matthew 9:34 **But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils.**

Matthew 9:35 And Jesus went about **all** the cities and villages, **teaching** in their synagogues, and **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing every** sickness and **every** disease among the people.

5. A heart sin against the Holy Spirit's work & witness!

Not the Father's or the Son's.

A. The first line of defense | the first witness: The Father

This would include creation and conscience.

Acts 14:14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

Acts 14:15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, **and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein: Acts 14:16** Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. **Acts 14:17** **Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.**

Acts 17:24 **God that made the world and all things therein**, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth **not** in temples made with hands; **Acts 17:25** Neither is worshipped with men's hands, **as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;**

Acts 17:28 **For in him we live (ζῶμεν), and move (κινούμεθα), and have our being (ἔσμεν)...**

Romans 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

B. The second line of defense | the second witness: The Son

C. The third line of defense | the third witness: The Holy Spirit

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. **John 16:8** **And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: John 16:14** **He shall glorify me:** for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.