

Hamartiology – Unforgiveable Sin

“And judgment was pronounced on the generation of that day in verses 30-37:He that is not with me is against me, and he that gathers not with me scatters. Therefore I say unto you, Every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men; but the blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whosoever shall speak against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, nor in that which is to come. Either make the tree good, and its fruit good; or make the tree corrupt, and its fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by its fruit. Ye offspring of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man out of his good treasure brings forth good things: and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth evil things. And I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned. In verse 31, that generation had committed the unpardonable sin: blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. It should be clearly comprehended exactly what the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is in the only context in which it is found, and must be interpreted accordingly. The unpardonable sin is not an individual sin, but a national sin. It was committed by that generation of Israel in Jesus' day and cannot be applied to subsequent Jewish generations. The content of the unpardonable sin was the national rejection of the Messiahship of Yeshua while He was physically present on the grounds that He was demon possessed. This sin was unpardonable, and judgment was set. The judgment came forty years later in A.D. 70 with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple and the worldwide dispersion of the Jewish people.”

— Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, The Basis of the Second Coming of the Messiah, MBS003, 5.

“The blasphemy against the Holy Spirit involves ascribing the work of the Holy Spirit, accomplished through Jesus Christ to Satan. You get that? It's saying, the Holy Spirit has done this work, He's done it through Jesus Christ, yet I'm saying it was Satan who did all of that work. So, to commit that sin, you have to know that Jesus Christ is God and then despite that, ascribe the Spirit's work through him to the devil. That is a serious, serious offense.”

— Tim Challies, Have You Committed The Unpardonable Sin? September 11, 2018.

“The Jewish leaders of Jesus' day committed the unpardonable sin by accusing Jesus Christ (in person, on earth) of being demon-possessed. They had no excuse for such an action. They were not speaking out of ignorance or misunderstanding. The Pharisees knew that Jesus was the Messiah sent by God to save Israel. They knew the prophecies were being fulfilled. They saw Jesus' wonderful works, and they heard His clear presentation of truth. Yet they deliberately chose to deny the truth and slander the Holy Spirit.”

— Got Questions, What is the unpardonable sin / unforgivable sin?

“So what does the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit really mean, and how does it apply to us today? In short, I suggest it's a specific, active, and final choice to declare the person and work of Jesus as being demonic in origin. The specificity of this charge is clearest in the most detailed version of the event we have, retold by Matthew (12:22-37). There it's clear that, after a contracted series of interactions with Jesus, the Pharisees have made a final, declarative decision that Jesus is not from God and must be killed (12:14 is the turning point of Matthew's narrative on this score). As a result, they have no choice but to openly interpret Jesus' good works of healing and teaching as Satanic in origin.”

— Jonathan Pennington, You Asked: What Is the Unforgivable Sin? August 13, 2013.