

The Unpardonable Sin

by Oliver B Greene

“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned” (Romans 5:12).

“For the wages of sin is death...” (Romans 6:23).

“Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” (James 1:15).

SIN and DEATH are synonymous! SIN and DEATH walk hand and hand, and unless something is done about SIN, the result is always DEATH. BUT— — There is a SIN which, once committed, is UNFORGIVABLE!!! We cannot depend upon preachers and teachers to give us the correct definition of the unpardonable sin, for they do not agree; but it is found in the Word of God. Jesus preached a sermon on the subject, 3 and it is His teaching that we will use. If we heed His warning and believe His Word, we will know the truth concerning this subject.

The unpardonable sin is found in three of the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. We will use the account found in Matthew 12:22-34: “Then was brought unto Him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and He heeled him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David? But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils. 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: and if Satan cast out Satan, his is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?

And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But 4 if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. Or else how can one enter into a strong man’s house, and spoil his goods except he first bind the strong man? And then he will spoil his house. He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad. “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.

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. ““Either make a the tree good, and his fruit good, or else made the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.” Let us look at the passage before us very, very CAREFULLY:

1. JESUS SPOKE THESE WORDS! All Scripture is God's Word and is eternally important; but when we read the words that fell straight from the lips of Jesus, they should have the closest attention mortal man can give. In verse 31 of this passage, Jesus said: "WHEREFORE...."(The word means "For what reason? For what end or object?" In other words, why did Jesus say what He had just said?) The account of the healing of the demoniac and the reaction of the Pharisees to the miracle was given to teach us the truth about a sin for which there is absolutely no forgiveness.

2. According to Jesus (not this preacher or some other religious leader) there is ONE SIN for which there is NO FORGIVENESS. He said: "ALL manner of SIN and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men, BUT THE BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY GHOST...."

3. There is NO ROOM left for any hope for the forgiveness of this ONE SIN.

4. Jesus said "Whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man (Jesus), it shall be forgiven him; but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost," that person cannot be forgiven EVER!

5. Whosoever commits this sin, according to Jesus Christ Himself, "It shall not be forgiven him, NEITHER IN THIS WORLD, NEITHER IN THE WORLD TO COME."

6. Jesus repeats here what He taught in the Sermon on the Mount: You can know a tree by the fruit it bears (Matthew 7:16-20)—"...for the tree is known by his fruit" — meaning, these men were CORRUPT MEN, as He clearly states next:

7. "O GENERATION OF VIPERS (poisonous snakes), how can ye being EVIL, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

To sum up these seven things I have pointed out: Jesus is the Teacher; His Word is final. He made it clear to ALL 7 that there is a sin for which there is NO PARDON - NO PARDON in this life nor in the life beyond the grave. He made it clear to the group to whom He spoke that day—and also to you and me—that the things we do and say declare what we are. Those men had spoken from their HEARTS these blasphemous words. This proved they were children of the SERPENT, the devil; they were vipers. Keep this in mind as we study further.

A Brief Outline

1. What is the unpardonable sin?
2. How does one commit the sin?
3. By WHOM can this sin be committed?
4. Who WILL NOT commit this sin?
5. How can one tell if he has committed the unpardonable sin?
6. Can it be committed TODAY? WHAT IS THE UNPARDONABLE SIN?

The answer to this question cannot be found in books written by men—for as I stated earlier, men do not agree on this subject. The answer can be found only in God's Word' therefore we shall look in the Bible for the answer. First of all, the definition is "SIN" is found in the First Epistle of John: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the LAW: for SIN is THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW" (I John 3:4). Jesus fulfilled every jot and tittle of the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17,18). Jesus came to take away "the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Jesus did not fail in His mission.

He did take away the SIN of the world; He fulfilled the law -- "The law was given by Moses, but GRACE and TRUTH came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:17). Just before Jesus went to the cross He said to His Father, "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have FINISHED the WORK which thou gavest me to do" (John 17:4). I repeat: Jesus fulfilled every jot and tittle of the law; He paid the sin-debt in full! He finished ALL the Father sent Him into the world to do-- -- THEREFORE -- The UNPARDONABLE SIN is different from any and ALL other sin or sins.

I make the following statement with reverence, FEAR, AND TREMBLING. I KNOW WHAT I AM SAYING; I know I will face this statement when I am judged for my stewardship. I make the statement because it is TRUTH, and there is a dire need for the truth to be made known! Here is the statement:-- GOD CANNOT (and remain God) forgive the person who commits the unpardonable sin, BECAUSE this sin has nothing to do with the LAW, CHRIST, OR THE FATHER.

The sin has to do with the PRECIOUS HOLY SPIRIT-- the most tender, the most sensitive, and in this age of GRACE, THE MOST IMPORTANT member of the Godhead. It is HE the Holy Spirit, who draws sinners to Jesus; and if He does not DRAW the sinner to the Saviour, THE SINNER CANNOT COME.

The Holy Spirit not only DRAWS the sinner, HE "BORNS" the one who comes to Jesus for salvation INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST. Jesus said: "...Except a man be born of water and OF THE SPIRIT, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5). The tender, compassionate holy Spirit DRAWS, He "BORNS," but He does more--MUCH MORE! The Holy Spirit comes into the HEART of the Christian, and one "BORN of the Spirit" Immediately becomes a "partaker of DIVINE NATURE" (II Peter 1:4).

The Holy Spirit LIVES in the heart of the Christian: "...for He (the Holy Spirit) dwelleth with you, and shall BE IN YOU" (John 14:17). "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" (I Corinthians 3:16). "Ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man HOVE NOT the Spirit of Christ, HE IS NONE OF HIS" (Romans 8:9).

"For as man as are LED by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Romans 8:14). "The Spirit (Holy Spirit) . . . beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" (Romans 8:16). The Unpardonable Sin Is Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit What does that mean? The definition of "blasphemy" is: "SPEAKING or ACTING hateful or hurtful

against a PERSON . . . Indignity offered to God in WORDS, SIGNS, or WRITING.” What did the Pharisees in our text do or say that caused Jesus to make it clear to them they had committed a sin for which they could never be forgiven?

Notice the Scripture again: “And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David? But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, bu by BEELZEBUB THE PRINCE OF THE DEVILS” (Matthew 12:23, 24). 12 I ask again, what did they do or say that brought ETERNAL DAMNATION– UNFORGIVABLE SIN–upon them? They gave Beelzebub (the devil) credit for the miracle Jesus had just wrought “BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD” (Matthew 12:28). A man was healed who was so full of demons he was BLIND and could not TALK! The very second Jesus cast the demons out of him, he could SEE and TALK.

The Pharisees said Jesus did it by the power of the devil credit for the work of the Holy Spirit, and because of this – THEY SEALED THEIR DOOM. BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE ONE SIN FOR WHICH THERE IS NO FORGIVENESS; and allow me to add– –this is the ONLY SIN for which there is NO FORGIVENESS! You may hear sermons on “The Three Unpardonable Sins: (or the Four, or the Five) – but according to God’s Word there is only ONE unpardonable sin.

HOW DOES A PERSON COMMIT THIS SIN? The unpardonable sin is committed by SPEAKING, or ACTING, or THINKING– (“Jesus knew their THOUGHTS, and said unto them. . .” –Matthew 12:25)–“hateful and/or HURTFUL” AGAINST EH Holy Spirit. It is “INDIGNITY” toward the Holy Spirit in words, signs, or in writing.

I have been in meetings where things occurred that I did not agree with, but I am VERY VERY CAREFUL not to attribute all that I do not agree with in religion to the devil. YOU, dear friend, had better be careful also. Take thought before you say, “That church, preacher, teacher, or radio program is of the devil.”

It may be, but DO YOU KNOW? If you do not have clear Scripture to prove that a man, church, or program is of the devil, you had better keep silent, and leave it to the Lord to judge: “Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness (the devil), and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: . . .” (I Corinthians 4:5).

The devil attempts to get many unsaved people to THINK they have committed the unpardonable sin, and by so doing keep them from being saved. I will show you clearly from God’s Word, later in this message, how you may KNOW whether or not you have committed this sin. The devil also torments the minds of many Christians by telling them they have committed the sin; he does this to rob them of joy in the Lord and to keep them from winning souls. Later I will also show you from God’s Word a precious truth concerning this.

Have you DELIBERATELY attributed the work of the Lord – TRUE preaching in the name of Jesus, real cases of souls saved at an old-fashioned altar- have you attributed true

spiritual things like these to the devil, to the power of the devil? I doubt you have -- IF YOU ARE READING THIS MESSAGE IN SINCERITY! 15 BY WHOM CAN THE UNPARDONABLE SIN BE COMMITTED? Every UNBELIEVER in the world is a candidate to commit the unpardonable sin. Why do I say that? The ONE DESIRE of the devil is to DAMN your soul -- to see you burn in hell. If the devil can lead you to blaspheme the Holy Spirit, he knows you are his; he knows you will never be saved.

Therefore he need not worry about you any more. If the devil can get you to commit the unpardonable sin he can make a check mark by your name and know you belong to him-- and then all that separates you from HELL-FIRE is the little time you have left to live! So you can see that every unsaved person on earth is a candidate to commit the unpardonable sin. WHO WILL NOT COMMIT THE UNPARDONABLE SIN? Is anyone alive immune from committing the sin? Is there any way I can 16 be sure that I will never commit this sin? YES, THANK GOD, there are millions alive today who CAN BE SURE they will NEVER, EVER-- COMMIT THE UNPARDONABLE SIN!!! Who are these millions? EVERY BORN AGAIN BELIEVER has the BIBLE GUARANTEE that he will NEVER commit the sin that will never be forgiven.

Why, and HOW, can a believer be sure he will never commit the sin? In Bible language -- "Come NOW and let us (you and me) REASON together. . ." (Isaiah 1:18):-- A believer is a Christian. A Christian is a child of God, born of God, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, led by the Holy Spirit, sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption. DO YOU, dear soul, think the precious Holy Spirit would lead YOU, or ME, or ANY CHILD OF GOD, to blaspheme Himself?

You see, the blessed Holy Spirit is in the world to GLORIFY GOD, AND JESUS, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS-- NOT to BLASPHEME. Jesus said: "Howbeit when He, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, is come (He came on the day of Pentecost, and He has not departed since), HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH (He will not guide God's children to blaspheme, but He will guide the children of God into ALL TRUTH): for HE shall not speak of Himself . . . HE SHALL GLORIFY ME . . ." (John 16:13, 14).

Christians are: CONVICTED of sin and CALLED to God by the Spirit; BORN of the Spirit; UNITED to Christ by the Spirit; INDWELT by the Spirit; LED by the Spirit; FILLED with the Spirit; SEALED by the Spirit; and in that glorious resurrection morning the bodies of believers will be RAISED by the Spirit. (Space will not allow me to give you the text of all the following Scriptures, but please read them in YOUR BIBLE: -- John 6:44; 16:7-11; 3:5; I Corinthians 12:12, 13; Romans 8:9; John 14:17; Romans 8:14, 16; Ephesians 5:18; 4:30; and Romans 8:11.)

IT IS NO WONDER THERE IS NO 18 FORGIVENESS FOR BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT! Are you a child of God through faith in the finished work of Jesus on the cross? If you are, stop right here and PRAY A PRAYER OF THANKS GIVING FOR YOUR SALVATION-- AND ALSO FOR THE ASSURANCE THAT YOU WILL NEVER BLASPHEME THE PRECIOUS HOLY SPIRIT WHO LEADS YOU MOMENT BY MOMENT! HALLELUJAH!!!!!! "And grieve not the

Holy Spirit of God, whereby YE ARE SEALED UNTO THE DAY OF REDEMPTION” (Ephesians 4:30).

When the devil sees the SEAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON ONE’S HEART, he KNOWS that he cannot get into that heart and cause that person to BLASPHEME the Holy Spirit! Why does Satan KNOW he cannot get into the heart SEALED by the Holy Spirit? He KNOWS BECAUSE: “Ye are of God, little children, AND HAVE OVERCOME THEM: BECAUSE GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU (the Holy Spirit), than he that is in the world (the devil, demons, evil spirits)” (I John 4:4).

The devil KNOWS God when he meets God, and he knows that God is more powerful than he! God’s guarantee to His child that His child will never blaspheme the Holy Spirit and spend eternity in hell with the devil and his angels, is THE SEAL OF GOD, THE HOLY SPIRIT. If you are born again, you HAVE NOT committed the unpardonable sin, and you WILL NOT commit the unpardonable sin – BECAUSE the Holy Spirit leads God’s children into “ALL TRUTH” and “IN PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME’S SAKE.” YOU, dear Christian (I did not say, church member; I SAID, DEAR CHRISTIAN), have the SEAL OF GOD ON YOUR HEART, and the SEAL of God is your GUARANTEE of reaching heaven safely! Paul speaks of “CHRIST–IN WHOM ye also trusted after that ye heard the Word of truth, the Gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye BELIEVED, ye were SEALED with THAT HOLY SPIRIT of promise, WHICH IS THE EARNEST (an earnest is something given to bind a bargain, to guarantee a transaction) OF OUR INHERITANCE until the redemption of the purchased possession . . .” (Ephesians 1:12-14).

HOW CAN A PERSON KNOW IF HE HAS COMMITTED THE UNPARDONABLE SIN? There is a SURE way one can KNOW whether or not he has committed this fatal sin: – – – IF YOU think you have committed the sin; if the devil tells you there is no hope for you because you have blasphemed the Holy Spirit; if you are tormented until at times you have thought of taking your own life, thinking there is NO HOPE for you – let me ask you ONE QUESTION:-- DO YOU WANT TO BE SAVED; DO YOU HAVE THE LEAST DESIRE TO BE SAVED? IF YOU DO, YOU HAVE NOT – I repeat, HAVE NOT – COMMITTED THE UNPARDONABLE SIN. ONLY the Holy Spirit could put within your heart the desire to be saved.

If you had BLASPHEMED THE SPIRIT, He would not bother you in any way; He would not put within your heart the desire to be saved. Therefore your heart would be cold and hard, and DEAD to spiritual things. REMEMBER – Jesus said: “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me DRAW him . . .” (John 6:44) – and this is done through the power of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit DRAWS, CALLS, WOOS, KNOCKS at the door of your heart.

If you had insulted Him, if you had blasphemed Him, He would not call you; He would not knock at the door of your heart. You can rest assured the devil will never put within you the desire to be SAVED! ONLY the Holy Spirit will put that desire within your heart. DID YOU KNOW – The desire to be saved, 22 The desire to go to heaven when

you die, The FEAR of spending eternity in hell, The FEAR of standing before God, Can come only through the POWER of God by mean of the Holy Spirit? EVERYTHING having to do with SALVATION FROM SIN is of GOD! God loved sinners, He sent Jesus to die for lost sinners, He made possible salvation from sin through the finished work of Jesus—and there is NO OTHER WAY. JESUS is “the AUTHOR of eternal salvation” (Hebrews 5:9).

JESUS is “the AUTHOR and FINISHER of our FAITH” (Hebrews 12:2). Salvation is by God’s grace “through FAITH . . . THE GIFT OF GOD: not of WORKS, lest any man should boast” (Ephesians 2:8, 9). NO, DEAR FRIEND, if you had committed blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, you can be sure you would have NO DESIRE to be saved! If you are LOST, and you do have a desire to be saved, YOU CAN BE SAVED—and that means 23 you have not committed the sin that spells doom, eternal doom! BUT LET ME WAN YOU— TODAY is the DAY, and THIS MOMENT is THE TIME for YOU to be SAVED (II Corinthians 6:2).

Give your heart to Jesus NOW, and you will find PEACE and HAPPINESS that will remove all fear and dread of what sin and the devil can do to you. If you refuse to trust Jesus as your Saviour, YOU CAN REST ASSURED the devil will try harder than he ever has to send your soul to hell. CAN THIS SIN BE COMMITTED TODAY? This question has already been answered, but I feel that I need to say more about it. In spite of the fact that some “great” preachers have taught in the past, and some still teach today, that the unpardonable sin cannot be committed in the Dispensation of Grace – IT CAN BE COMMITTED! This wonderful Dispensation of Grace, know as the Church Age, began at 24 Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit cam and the Church was born (Acts chapter 2). The Holy Spirit has been in the world since the day of Pentecost, and He will remain until the Rapture of the Church, about which we read in I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

The Holy Spirit is operation in the plan of God today as He never did in the past dispensations. THIS is the age when can, and do, blaspheme Him. The Spirit will go out with the Church at the time of the Rapture. In II Thessalonians 2:6, 7 we read: “And now ye know what withholdeth (the Holy Spirit) and he (Antichrist, the Man of Sin) might be revealed in his time.

For the mystery of iniquity doth already work (that is, the spirit of the devil was already working in that day—but the spirit of the devil cannot take a human body and appear in the person of the Antichrist until the Holy Spirit is taken out of the world): only He (the Holy Spirit) who now letteth (hinder), until he (the Holy 25 Spirit) be taken out of the way.” During the days of the reign of the Antichrist, the unpardonable sin will be receiving the mark of the beast.

This will occur during the tribulation period, and this will occur AFTER the Rapture of the Church. You will not be here if you are born again; therefore you need not worry about the mark of the beast. (Please read Revelation 13:11-18 and 14: 9-11.) THE ONLY SAFE WAY TO LIVE ANY DAY, AND EVERY DAY, IS IN CHRIST!!! SAVED!!!