

Lesson 5 The Unpardonable Sin



1. What sin did Christ say could not be forgiven? Matthew 12:31

2. What made Christ say this and to whom was He saying it? Matthew 12:22-25

By rejecting the light that was shining upon them, by refusing to examine the evidence to see whether the messages were from heaven, the Pharisees sinned against the Holy Ghost. By turning their faces from the light, they refused to listen, choosing, instead, to cultivate their unbelief. Thus the light which, if received, would have been to them a savor of life unto life, rejected, became a savor of death unto death,--death to spirituality.

3. Why are people destroyed today? Hosea 4:6

4. Why do people reject the truth? John 3:19, 20

The Pharisees were self-deceived. They rejected the teaching of Christ because he exposed the evil of their hearts and reproved their sins. They would not come to the light, fearing that their deeds would be reproved. They chose darkness rather than light. Thus it will be with all who resist the entreaties of the Spirit of God, and persist in doing what they know to be wrong.

5. What makes blasphemy against the Holy Ghost a sin that God cannot forgive?

Spirit once resisted, there will be less difficulty in resisting it a second time. If we maintain the independence of the natural heart, and refuse the correction of God, we shall, as did the Jews, stubbornly carry out our own purposes and ideas in the face of the plainest evidence, and shall be in danger of as great deception as came on them. In our blind infatuation we may go to as great lengths as they did, and yet flatter ourselves that we are doing work for God. Those who continue in this course will reap what they have sown. They were afforded a shelter, but they refused it.

6. What is the work of the Holy Ghost in our life? John 16:7,8

It is by the Spirit that God works upon the heart; when men **willfully** reject the Spirit, they cut off the channel by which God can communicate with them. When the Spirit is finally rejected, there is no more that God can do for the soul.

7. What are the steps to rejecting the Spirit of God? Ephesians 4:30

Grieve: To make sorrowful. The Holy Ghost is made sorrowful as He sees that we are going down a course that is contrary to salvation.

8. What step is next? I Thessalonians 5:19

The conscience becomes less and less impressible. The voice of God seems to become more and more distant, and the wrongdoer is left to his own infatuation. *"But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."* Hebrews 3:13

9. And finally? Acts 7:51

Resist: To strive against; to endeavor to counteract, defeat or frustrate. In stubbornness he resists every appeal, despises all counsel and advice, and turns from every provision made for his salvation. The Spirit of God no longer exerts a restraining power over him, and the sentence is passed, *"He is joined to idols; let him alone"* Hosea 4:17. This is the process through which the soul passes that rejects the working of the Holy Spirit.

10. How do I prevent this from happening to me? John 12:35, 36

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve;" Joshua 24:15

11. Is it safe to wait until I feel like doing God's will? II Corinthians 6:2

"Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." Hebrews 4:7

12. What promise does God make if I come to Him now? Isaiah 1:18

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

13. What do I have to give up in order to hear and obey His voice? Isaiah 55:6-11

"I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him." Hosea 14:4

14. If I refused to obey before how do I find hope that God will hear me now?

No one need look upon the sin against the Holy Ghost as something mysterious and indefinable. The sin against the Holy Ghost is the sin of persistent refusal to respond to the invitation to repent. If you refuse to believe in Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, you love darkness rather than light, you love the atmosphere that surrounded the first great apostate. You choose this atmosphere rather than the atmosphere that surrounds the Father and the Son, and God allows you to have your choice. But let no soul be discouraged by this presentation of the matter. Let no one who is striving to do the will of the Master be cast down. Hope thou in God. The Lord Jesus has made it manifest that He regards you at an infinite estimation. He left His royal throne, He left His royal courts, He clothed His divinity with humanity, and died a shameful death upon the cross of Calvary, that you might be saved.

In the Light of God's Word...

I understand that the Holy Ghost's continued work in my life is dependent upon my continued obedience to His word. I choose to commit my life entirely to Jesus, and to take my stand with His commandment-keeping people.

