

The Unforgivable Sin

Luke 11:14-26

9/10/00

Intro

In this section Jesus is exercising authority over the kingdom of darkness by casting out a demon.

But the Pharisees said that Jesus cast out demons by the power of “Beelzebul,” Lord of the Flies, or Satan himself.

They knew Jesus had power over demons, but rather than confess Jesus as Lord, they chose to blaspheme the Holy Spirit by whom Jesus operated. This is what Jesus called the **“Unforgivable Sin.”**

We need to clarify this issue of whether people can commit this sin today and then gain insight into spiritual warfare.

These scriptures give great insight into spiritual warfare.

I. See the Danger of a Hard Heart.

Vs 15

A. They would rather accuse Jesus than follow Him.

- This is called a personal agenda.

- Wouldn't it be better to agree with what God is doing than to fight against it?

Illus- The wealthy man who was approached to give to a worthy cause.

B. What is the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit?

- Seeing the work of God, knowing full well it is the work of God, and yet having the audacity to call it the work of Satan.
- This requires such a hard heart that it is difficult even to imagine.
- If you think you have committed the Unforgivable Sin, it's a sure indication that you haven't because even if it were possible to commit it, you wouldn't care if you had.

Illus- Sometimes a child in a fit of anger and immaturity will say to a parent, “I hate you!” They're still in the family.

C. A Kingdom divided cannot stand.

- Their accusation wasn't even logical.

D. Many believe that it's impossible to commit this sin today.

- Because it was the Holy Spirit working through Jesus Himself that they accused.
- However, hard hearts are still very possible.

II. Binding the Strong Man.

Vs 21-22

A. Jesus binds the Strong Man when He removes Satan from our lives.

B. Who's the Strong Man now?

- This is important to understanding whether a Christian can be possessed by a demon.
- If Jesus is the Strong Man in my life, then who will bind Him?

III. There's No Such Thing as Being Spiritually Neutral.

Vs 23-26

A. In the Kingdom of evil, he who is not for Christ is against Him.

B. If a man is cleansed of evil, but does not fill the void with the Spirit of God, then the evil will return in even greater ways.

C. It is absolutely essential for us to continue to grow in spiritual things because the principle is still true in us.

Illus- What about dry seasons? I like how Jordi says it, "Dry seasons are opportunities to demonstrate commitment to the Lord by being faithful even when I don't feel like it."

Hab 3:17 ff

D. We can give the enemy a foothold, a beach-head in our lives when we compromise.

Eph 4:27 "Do not give the devil an opportunity (a place)."

- It is possible to be oppressed by demons

Conclusion

Jesus will always be the Strong Man, so our victory is sure!!!