

7-10-22: **The Unforgivable Sin** Mark 3:20-30

**I. Jesus' family thought He had lost his mind.** 3:20-21

"Take charge of Him" = hold, restrain, or seize.

**II. The religious leaders thought Jesus was possessed by the devil.** 3:22.

When Jesus was young the religious leaders were impressed by him. "Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers." Luke 2:37

**III. Jesus responds by pointing out the absurdity of their accusations.** 3:23-27.

**IV. Jesus says that every sin and every blasphemy can be forgiven, except the blasphemy they have just committed.**

- A. Is Jesus saying there is no chance of forgiveness for these men?
- B. The Apostle Paul certainly shared the beliefs of these religious teachers.

"But Saul (Paul) began to destroy the church. Going from house to house he dragged off men and women and put them in prison." Acts 8:3

"Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life." 1 Tim. 13-16.

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16.

**Conclusion: The unpardonable sin is not an act you commit; it is a journey you take**

- A. The sin of the religious leaders was a refusal to accept the witness of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. The Holy Spirit bears witness to who Jesus is.

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me." John 15:26.

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Luke 3:21-22

- 2. The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin.

"And He (the Holy Spirit), when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment..." John 16:8 (NASB)

- 3. The Holy Spirit calls us to submit our lives to Jesus.

"In the last days, God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.'" Acts 2:17-18.

- B. If you are a Christian, you have not committed this sin.