**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Unpardonable Sin |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Matthew 12:22-32 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2219 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. What a joy it is to think about God’s amazing, incredible, and indescribable grace and love that He has poured out on each of us!
	2. The sad truth is that many people are not going to experience the grace of God unless they turn from their sin and receive Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.
	3. Many people are very close to a deadline.
		1. If they cross that deadline, then they will have committed an unpardonable sin.
			1. They will be just as bound and destined for Hell in this life before they die, with no chance of redemption, as if the gates of Hell had already closed shut behind them.
	4. What is the unpardonable sin?
		1. It is not a moral sin.
			1. It is not rape.
			2. It is not murder.
				1. As horrible and wicked as those are, anyone who has committed those can still be saved.

They can be saved by the grace of Almighty God.

* + - 1. Every blur, every blot, every blemish, and every stain that has come across the human soul, the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin.
		1. It is not an intellectual sin.
			1. A person may be an atheist, agnostic, or a God-hater.
				1. He may have declared that there is no God.

That sin can be forgiven.

* + - 1. Many who have been atheists or blasphemers have repented of that sin and come to the Lord Jesus Christ.
		1. It is not a verbal sin.
			1. It is not some blood-curdling oath where a person curses God to His face.
				1. Even that sin can be forgiven.
				2. God forgives blasphemy, if someone blasphemes God the Father and God the Son.
			2. A person can commit the unpardonable sin without saying a word.
			3. The word “blaspheme” means “to speak hurtfully against.”
			4. We can speak to God in prayer without saying words, and we can blaspheme God by not saying words.
				1. Luke 6:45
				2. One may so live that if his life were translated into words, it would be blasphemous.
		2. Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is the unpardonable sin.
	1. In today’s message, we will discuss blasphemy of the Holy Spirit and the consequences of this unpardonable sin.
1. blasphemy of the holy spirit (matthew 12:22-32)
	1. Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is attributing to the devil the work of the Spirit of Almighty God.
	2. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is the sin that can never be forgiven.
		1. It is a sin that one will commit knowingly and willfully with his eyes wide open and then forever shut.
	3. Here is the background for the warning that Jesus Christ has given:
		1. Matthew 12:22-32
			1. In verse 22, “Him” refers to the Lord Jesus.
			2. “One possessed with a devil” may be translated “demon.”
			3. A man who could not see and could not speak was now able to speak, and he was able to see.
			4. “Is He not the Son of David?” means “Is He not the Messiah?”
			5. The Pharisees were the religious leaders of that day.
				1. They were very religious, but they hated Christ and His ministry.
			6. “Jesus knew their thoughts.”
				1. This is the reason why one can blaspheme in his mind.
			7. In verse 32, “Son of Man” is the phrase that Jesus used for Himself.
		2. Jesus was in His public ministry, and a man who was afflicted with a demon was brought to Him.
			1. It was a demon of blindness and a demon of dumbness.
				1. “Dumbness” means the inability to speak and articulate.
				2. Not all people who are blind are demon-possessed.
				3. Not all people who are mute are demon-possessed.
				4. This man, though, was demon-possessed.

He was bound with this spirit.

* + 1. When Jesus saw the man, Jesus supernaturally, miraculously, and wondrously healed him.
			1. His eyes were opened, and he could speak.
		2. Those who witnessed this miracle said that Jesus was the Son of David, the Messiah.
			1. The Pharisees saw their own power and influence slipping away and going to Jesus.
		3. The Pharisees could not deny the miracle because it was obvious.
			1. They determined to explain it away.
				1. They said that Jesus performed a miracle, but He did it in the power of Satan.

They said that He did this by Beelzebub.

This was the most diabolical, wicked, dirty, and hateful thing that they could possibly have said.

Beelzebub was a Phoenician god.

The Phoenicians were a wayfaring people who were very superstitious.

This was a god of filth and putrefaction.

The Pharisees had the audacity to say that Jesus was casting out devils by this god of filth.

It was then that Jesus gave this teaching to show the great wickedness of their sin.

* 1. It is a sin against redemption.
		1. Jesus was working against the devil.
			1. Jesus took a man who had been afflicted by demons and delivered him.
				1. This was redeeming love.
			2. Jesus opened blind eyes.
			3. Jesus loosed dumb tongues.
				1. His great love and mastery over Satan was poured out.
		2. The same hands that blessed the demon-possessed man would have blessed any of the Pharisees.
			1. The same love that delivered that man would have delivered them.
				1. Luke 19:10
		3. The Pharisees sinned against redeeming love and against our Redeemer.
			1. Later on, they were the ones who did the following:
				1. They slapped the face of Jesus Christ.
				2. They plucked the beard from His face.
				3. They helped to crucify Jesus.
				4. They cried out for His blood.

Matthew 26:57 - 27:50

* + 1. If you don’t give your heart to Jesus Christ, then you are sinning against redemption.
			1. You are sinning against the One who loves you and wants to save you.
			2. You are trampling beneath your feet the precious blood of Jesus Christ.
				1. You are crucifying Him afresh.
	1. It is a sin against reason.
		1. They knew better.
		2. Matthew 12:24-26
			1. What they said didn’t make sense.
			2. Common sense tells us that this was not true.
				1. A house divided against itself cannot stand.
				2. How does Satan cast out Satan?
			3. Jesus was not in collusion with the devil; He was in collision with the devil.
				1. Nobody works for the devil by casting out demons, opening blind eyes, loosing dumb tongues, and giving peace and joy.
				2. John 10:10
		3. These men were intellectuals, but they crucified their reason in order to crucify Jesus Christ.
		4. There are many people who trample reason to death in order to have their own way.
			1. Some people are not Christians because they say that there are hypocrites in the church.
				1. That is a sin against reason.
				2. Some lawyers may be shysters; but if you need legal advice, you will find a lawyer.
				3. Some money may be counterfeit; but if you saw a counterfeit bill, would you burn the rest of your money?

Fifty-dollar bills are counterfeited because of the worth of fifty-dollar bills.

Every counterfeit is a testimony to the validity and the worthwhileness of the real.

* + - * 1. Don’t let a hypocrite keep you out of Heaven, or you will spend eternity with them in Hell.
			1. Some people believe that they have to give up too much in order to become a Christian.
				1. The only thing God asks you to give up is anything that would harm you or hurt you.

Psalm 84:11

* + 1. Isaiah 1:18
		2. Sinning against redemption and reason is not the unpardonable sin.
			1. It only sets the stage for it.
	1. It is a sin against revelation.
		1. Matthew 12:28
			1. The King, Jesus Christ, stood in their midst.
				1. The Holy Spirit of God worked through Him and testified by those very works that He is indeed the Son of God.

The Spirit of God was in action in this episode.

* + 1. The Pharisees’ real struggle was with the Holy Spirit.
			1. Jesus did what He did by the Spirit of God.
			2. Someone may blaspheme God the Father and say that there is no God.
			3. Someone may blaspheme Jesus Christ and say that He is a false prophet or a fictitious person.
				1. But when the Holy Spirit of God comes, He demolishes those things.
			4. The Holy Spirit of God pulls away the veil of darkness.
				1. The Holy Spirit of God opens the eyes of the spirit so that people can see and understand.
		2. The Pharisees did not sin against ignorance; they sinned against light.
			1. When Jesus was on the cross, He could say to those who were crucifying Him, “Father forgive them. They don’t know what they are doing.”
				1. Luke 23:34
				2. But these men, the Pharisees, knew what they were doing.
			2. The ministry of the Father is to rule the universe.
			3. The ministry of the Son, in conjunction with the Father, is to save.
			4. But the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to open our eyes to give light and to help us to understand.
		3. When men and women stand before God to be judged, they will not be judged primarily by the sin they committed but by the light they rejected.
			1. Matthew 11:23-24
				1. Capernaum was the city where Jesus preached, taught, and performed many miracles.
				2. Sodom was the most morally wicked city upon the face of the Earth.
				3. At the judgment, it will be better for Sodom than it will be for Capernaum.

Because Capernaum had so much light.

* + - 1. What is the judgment that comes into the world?
				1. John 3:19
	1. The unpardonable sin is sin against light.
		1. It is attributing to Satan the work of the Holy Spirit when one knows better.
1. consequences of the unpardonable sin (2 thessalonians 2:11-12)
	1. The deceiving power of this sin:
		1. A person who commits this sin opens himself up to deception.
		2. One of the most terrifying verses in the Bible is found in 2 Thessalonians 2:11.
			1. God sends delusion that they might believe a lie.
		3. 2 Thessalonians 2:12
			1. They had the truth, but they would not believe the truth.
			2. They did not believe the truth because “they had pleasure in unrighteousness.”
			3. In this passage, the opposite of truth is not error.
				1. The opposite of truth is sin.
			4. They wanted their sin.
			5. It is not that they never heard the truth, but they did not believe the truth.
				1. It was not because of intellectual problems but moral problems.
			6. They had pleasure in unrighteousness, and for this cause, God sent them strong delusion.
				1. They could not have their sin and have God’s truth at the same time.
		4. When we choose sin, the baggage that comes with that sin is error, and God will send us strong delusion.
			1. It is part of the righteous judgment of God.
			2. There are people who, willingly and with eyes wide open, sin not only against redemption and reason but also against revelation.
				1. When this happens, there is the deceiving power of that sin.
		5. Romans 11:8
	2. The deadening power of this sin:
		1. When a person commits this sin, something dies within him.
		2. If you have rejected Jesus Christ and crossed the deadline, then you may be the one who says that preachers don’t preach like they used to.
			1. Some of them do, you just don’t hear like you used to.
		3. There is the deadening power of this sin, and someone who has crossed the deadline doesn’t feel the work of the Holy Spirit of God speaking to him.
			1. Hebrews 3:7-8
			2. They can sit in a service where others are being blessed and saved, and they will not feel a thing.
			3. They may say that they are not afraid to die.
				1. They probably are not.

Their heart is so hard.

* 1. The damning power of this sin:
		1. It is the sin that puts you beyond the pale of redemption.
		2. Hebrews 6:4-6
			1. When God says that something is impossible, we should pay attention.
			2. In the Greek language, this means that they have gone along with the Holy Spirit.
				1. They have not ingested and digested the “good Word of God” but only tasted it.
		3. We can come to a place where it is impossible for us to be saved because, with eyes wide open, we crucify Jesus afresh.
			1. Some who nailed Him to the cross did not know what they were doing.
			2. But when we reject Jesus and are fully aware of what we are doing, we commit a greater sin than those who nailed Him to the cross.
				1. We have tasted; we have gone along with the Holy Spirit.
			3. Suppose you are at a supermarket, and someone has a tray with samples of cheese.
				1. You take a piece and taste it.

It’s good; and you take some, not asking the price.

* + - * 1. When you see that it costs almost thirty dollars, you put it back.

You are not willing to pay thirty dollars for it.

Here is a person with eyes wide open saying that he will not pay the price.

This is what happens if a person who has been a partaker of the Holy Ghost and has tasted the good Word of God falls away and turns their back.

Then, it is impossible to renew them to repentance.

* + 1. No one can be saved unless the Holy Spirit of God opens their eyes.
			1. But when someone says no to the Holy Spirit of God, he puts out his own eyes.
				1. The Holy Spirit of God ceases to strive with that person.

Genesis 6:3

We can sin against light, and that is when light goes out on the road to Hell.

1. CONCLUSION
	1. If you feel the slightest desire to come to Jesus Christ, then come to Him.
		1. Don’t let God send you strong delusion.
		2. Don’t cross the deadline.
		3. Don’t sin against such light.
	2. Revelation 22:17
	3. If you think that you have committed the unpardonable sin and you want to be saved, then you have not committed that sin.
		1. Jesus said that if anyone will come unto Him, He will never turn him away.
	4. The Holy Spirit says, “Come.”
	5. The Word of God says, “Come.”
	6. Jesus, with open arms, says, “Come.”
	7. Isaiah 1:18
	8. Acts 16:31
		1. Believe that the Lord Jesus died for you, was buried for you, rose for you, ascended for you, and invites you today.
	9. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	10. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. Acts 16:31
		5. John 3:16