

September 3<sup>d</sup>, 2023  
Pinecrest Baptist Church  
a.m.

Sermon Series: Striving With the Maker: The Ruin of Resistance  
Sermon #7 Title: Forbidden Forgiveness  
Sermon #7 Text: (Matthew 12:31-32)

*“Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but 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.” – vs 31-32*

If there is anything you must have in order to enter eternal life, it is forgiveness; and if forgiveness is the one thing you need, it should stand as imperative to hear from the One who is charged with doing the Forgiving!

The Necessity of Forgiveness - It is the dividing line between those who will go to hell, and those who will not.

- It is the work of the cross in its entirety - to provide a basis by which God could justly forgive a sinner.
- It is the work of the Resurrection in its entirety – to prove, present, and provide, life after forgiveness.
- it is by the blood of Jesus that our sin and sins can be forgiven in the first place.

- “It was the shedding of blood that provided remissions of sins”
- No forgiveness, no salvation!

Mark 2:10-11 – *“But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.”*

Acts 5:31 – *“Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.”*

Acts 13:38 – *“Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:”*

Acts 26:18 – *“To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.”*

Ephesians 1:7 – *“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”*

Colossians 1:14 – *“In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:”*

It is here what we hear from the One doing the Forgiving, and the first thing we see is “The Forgivers Love.”

I. The Forgiver's Love – **"Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men."**

**A. The Source of Forgiveness Asserted - "Wherefore, I say unto you..."**

1.) This is a message from the Man who is the One that dispenses soul saving forgiveness.

\*Note – If there is anyone who can tell you with accuracy, clarity, and finality what may be forgiven, and what will not it would be the One in whom Dispenses, or Withholds Eternal Forgiveness.

(Don't ask me; don't ask your father, grandfather, newspaper, or college professor, it is the One dispensing it in the first place.)

John 5:21-22 – **"For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:"**

- There are a lot of jokes in this world about St. Peter standing at the Pearly gates, with a roster and the power to decide who gets in, and who is kicked out. – It is not Peter who makes this decision it is the Lord Jesus Himself.

- (That is why we often say, it is not the "plan of salvation that saves, it is the Man of Salvation that saves.)

- There is an eternal difference between "admitting Jesus Does Save Anyone" and "Trusting Jesus TO save You."

\*Note – Now all with all of that being said, you need to understand that this is both a theological statement given by

Jesus as Man; and a Divine Identification of Jesus speaking as God.

Every Pharisee standing around would have been familiar with what the Lord said in Isaiah 45:22: **"Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: For I am God, and there is none else."**

When the Lord spoke, He did not say – "It is written" – like He often did. He did not say, "As the prophets have said"... - He said **"I say unto you!"** – as the One who had the authority to say it on His own!

\*Note – Now we said all of that to say this.... HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW!

- This is never to be a mystery! – It is never to be foggy, confusing, or withheld by God.

- It is by the LOVE of the One doing the Forgiving that He wants you and me to know the truth.

\*Note – There is no God in heaven, saying, "I have the terms of righteousness, grace, forgiveness, and redemption.... But keep it quiet, and Let's see if they can guess it right.

- Jesus said I am telling you what you need to know about the scope of forgiveness.

**B. – The Scope of Forgiveness Offered – "All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men."**

\*Note – First a reminder:

(Don't read this like a universal mandate that states, well that's it – everybody's forgiven – Hallelujah lets celebrate!

- When you bring in the rest of the Bible, you learn that each and every person has to access this forgiveness through

Christ Jesus. – How do I access that forgiveness? – Ask Him, trusting Him to keep His Word.

- Remembering that no man can “work his way into forgiveness, redemption, or glory.” – It is by “grace” we are saved, and that means “unmerited favor.”

- Working for salvation is like trying to borrow your way out of debt

\*Note – Now back to the scope of forgiveness:

1.) “All manner”

a.) “pas” – every. – The language translators included the expansion of “all manner” – to cover every kind that exists.

2.) Every kind of what –

a.) “sin” – Every kind, in every category that one can commit.

\*Note – Now let me make you uncomfortable for a minute.

- It is not hard for you to think of God forgiving “normal, every-day, run of the mill, natural sinning.” – If you can call it that.

- Lying; Bad Thoughts, Lust of the Eyes, Flesh, and Pride of Life – normal struggles with the fallen human nature.

(we think of God being willing to forgive “natural sins” and smile and thank Him.)

(we think of God being willing to forgive “doctrinal sins – or doctrinal errors, or honest misinterpretations of the Bible” – that do not lead people away from Jesus.)

- But when I tell you that God is willing to forgive and save those guilty of “evil sins” – we get uncomfortable.

- Pedophiles – as repulsive and wicked as that is – Jesus died for that.

- Rapists/Abusers/Sociopaths/Terrorists/Abortionists/Transgenderism/Homosexuality... and on and on

- That shows you just how wide the grace of God is, the Love of God is, the patience of God is, offering forgiveness through Christ – from the dregs of depravity to the white-washed robes of religious hypocrites.

What do you think it means when the Bible says in 1<sup>st</sup> John 1:9 – **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**

- Now that’s every kind of sin.

b.) “blasphemy” – In the next statement He puts a limit on the term “all, and every” – but when taken together, the statement in total is that “all other kinds of blasphemy”

(1.) the textbook definition is “reviling slander” – the idea is to “declare or pronounce something to be evil” or “bad or wicked.”

Certain Islamic states have “blasphemy laws” in which if you say “Muhammad is NOT a prophet, and Allah is Not God” but are counterfeit impersonators, they will cut your head off.

\*Note – Jesus makes clear to us what He means by blasphemy when He gives us an example in the next verse –

**“Whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him.”**

\*note – Now friend, If the Lord refused to forgive anyone who ever spoke a word against Jesus; you have virtually no New Testament.

- Saul was the chief speaker against the Son of man before he became Paul.
- Jude the brother of Jesus wouldn't have a book in the New Testament, before he was saved, he thought Jesus was crazy.
- Blasphemy is to slander, or speak evil against someone, when it is opposite of the truth, or intended to denigrate in the mind of others.

Now Jesus makes it clear here. – He doesn't cut your head off for saying a bad word against Him. – As long as you live, you have time to come to Him, and you too can go from Saul to Paul.

Now if you don't see anything else in what Jesus is saying here, you ought to at least be able to see “The Forgiver's Love.”

II. The Forgiver's Law – **“blasphemy against the Holy Spirit shall not be forgiven unto men.”** – End of subject.

\*Note – Now here is the clearest line in the sand that you will find in the scriptures.

- There exists a condition in which the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, will Not Forgive. – It is what I call “Forbidden Forgiveness.”

Therefore, when the Lord declares that there is a condition that can exist “in this world” that will forbid, or prohibit one from being forgiven, you would do very well to perk up your ears and hear what “The Forgiver” has to say.

Now Remember this; **“If He declares there is a condition in which “I will not forgive you” then it doesn't matter who else will!”** – Christ is the Forgiver

**A. Blasphemy of the Spirit Defined** – “evil railing, accusation, or slander, with full knowledge of the truth.”

1.) It is not merely rejecting the convicting leading of the Spirit. – Again – see Saul of Tarsus; and any other Christian who went through countless bouts of conviction before they said yes to Jesus.

\*Note – In short, it is when a man with full knowledge and awareness, sees things the way God wants a lost man to see them; and then declares God to be Evil!

- The Spirit of God is that third part of the trinity that moves in men. – He moves to draw lost men to Salvation. He moves to lead saved men away from sin.

- John 16:8 – **“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.”**

- Blasphemy of the Spirit is when a man sees that work, and understands it; recognizes that source, and comprehends as much as God will let him comprehend; and then declares – that is an evil spirit.

- To knowingly slander and denigrate the heart, intentions, will, motives, and movements of the same

Spirit of God that moved across the waters in Genesis; the same Spirit that Seals the saved until the day of redemption; and the same Spirit that Intercedes for us when we don't know what we're praying for!

- This is what Satan did in the garden of Eden – “God is not good.”
- This is what the Pharisees were doing – when they said Jesus was using the power of Beelzebub
- This is that spirit that with full knowledge – Calls Evil Good and Good Evil.

\*Note – Now here's the issue -

*B. Blasphemy of the Spirit Doomed* – “shall not be forgiven unto men.”

Why?

\*Note – Is it just so offensive to God that He just says, “Well, I won't be disrespected like that?” – Now friend He could and He would be well within the bounds of common sense and righteousness. – But that's not it.

- 1.) \*Note – Now remember this: - You cannot call Him Savior AND Liar at the same time.

1<sup>st</sup> John 5:10 – “...he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.”

- There are those who do it ignorantly, and by God's grace He continues to extend His arm of salvation.
- Paul said, “I did this in ignorance”
- These Pharisees “did it with intelligence”

As I have said to you many times before, it's catastrophically stupid, to say, “I think the God of the Bible is not good, so

there's no way I'm going to listen to Him.” – Whether you think He is good or not is categorically Irrelevant – He's still God.

(But friend, you had better give Him an honest hearing. You had better give Him your open ears, and your receptive mind. On closer inspection, and honest evaluation; there is no one who has “tasted the goodness of God” and ever changed their mind.

- This is one sin that a Born-Again Christian can never commit.)

III. The Forgiver's Light – “neither in this world, neither in the world to come.”

*A. The Earthly Doom* – “neither in this world...”

- 1.) that tells you there is a line in this world that a man or woman can cross.

- This is a point that is only known by God. – Don't pretend you can pick it out with certainty.

a.) This is the point of no return.

(1) the rest of this life will be lived “godlessly.”

(2.) there will be no more “convicting, moving, or compelling” by the Spirit of God.

(My suspicion, and only mine – I have to think that one feature of one who can never be forgiven, is that they will never, ever want to be forgiven.)

(Sometimes people lose sleep over this, what if I've committed it – friend if you're worried about it, you haven't.)

- that means the Spirit of God is still wooing you.

*B. The Eternal Doom* – “neither in the world to come.”

NO second chances –

\*Note – Someone has rightly said, - “There are no atheists in hell. – There is nothing but “believers in God” who are in hell today - But there are no Christians.”

Conclusion:

Now know this – No one goes to Heaven, without the Forgiveness of God through Jesus Christ. And no one goes to Hell with it! – It is the line between the two; and more appropriately it is the Man between the two.

