

Un forgivable

Neal Parker

Unforgivable

■ Matthew 12:30-32

- “...*but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven...*”

■ Considerations

- Sharp distinction between two types of blasphemy: there is the blasphemy against the Son of man and the blasphemy against the Spirit of God.
- So all sins are forgivable, except one. The sin against the Holy Spirit cannot be forgiven.



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■ Matthew 12:30-32

- “...*but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven...*”

■ Considerations

- **Blasphemy** - *blasphēmia* - slander, detraction, speech injurious, to another's good name / impious and reproachful speech injurious to divine majesty
- The word "blasphemy" is practically confined to speech defamatory of the Divine Majesty.



Sin of Ignorance

■ John 1:19-27

- “There is someone standing among you whom you do not know.”

Some people, through ignorance of Jesus, might speak evil of Him. And a sin that is committed in ignorance of the true identity of Jesus is pardonable.



Sin of Ignorance

■ Luke 23:33-43

- “*Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do .”*

Every sin against Jesus, including that of crucifying Him on the cross, can be forgiven.

God can forgive them because they did not know what they were doing.



Sin of Ignorance

■ I Timothy 1:12-17

- Paul confesses to three sins: he blasphemed, he persecuted, and he insulted Jesus.

■ Philippians 3:1-9

- He had a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. It was a misguided zeal.



Sin of Ignorance

■ Acts 23:1

- *Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly good conscience before God up to this day.*

■ Acts 24:14-16

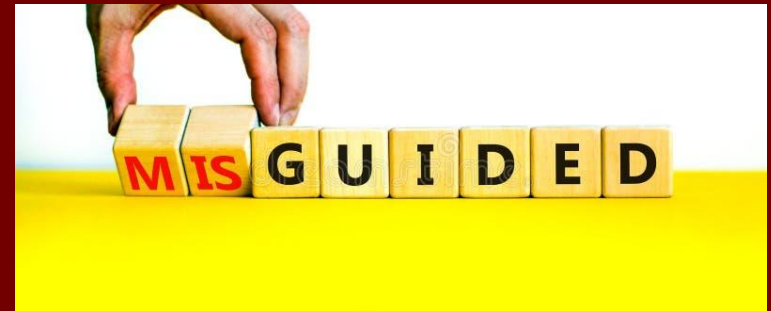
- *I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men.*



Conscience – “*Spiritual Receiver*”

■ Romans 2:12-16

- This matter of the conscience is extremely important. We need to realize that the conscience is the means by which God can speak to human beings.
- The conscience is an innate human faculty. Every human is born with a consciousness of right or wrong.
- Be careful to equate the conscience with the Voice of God.



Silenced Conscience

■ I Timothy 1:5-11

- Love must be our ultimate goal in life. And this love comes from a pure heart, a good conscience and a sincere faith.
- Unless you have a pure heart, you cannot have a good conscience. And if you don't have a good conscience, how are you going to have a sincere faith?



Danger: Silenced Conscience

■ I Timothy 1:18-20

- Some men made shipwrecked of their faith by not keeping a good conscience. Here we have an image that compares the course of faith to navigation.
- The Greek word for 'rejected (aposamenoi)' is a strong one. It means 'to push away with force.' It is a willful act..
- When a person continues to push his conscience away, something terrible will eventually happen: his faith will be ruined. It is will be broken to pieces and destroyed.



Deliberate Act

■ Matthew 12:22-29

- “...This man (Jesus) casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons...”
- Jesus accuses them of being evil, calling them a ‘generation of vipers’ in v. 34. And it is to these Pharisees that the Lord Jesus gave the warning that they were on the verge of committing a sin for which no pardon is possible.



Deliberate Act

■ Mark 3:22-30

- “...Whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin...”
- “..It shall not be forgiven him, either in this age, or in the age to come...”
- An eternal sin then is a sin that has no forgiveness, either in this present age or in the future for eternity.



Deliberate Act

■ Mark 3:22-30

- "...Because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit..."
- **By saying that Jesus has an unclean spirit, they have committed the sin against the Holy Spirit.**
- **They attacked the Holy Spirit by implication. They attributed the work of Christ to the devil, calling the Holy Spirit an unclean spirit by implication.**



Seared Conscience

■ **Matthew 12:28, 33-37**

- The point here is that there is a choice to make between good or evil. You are either on the side of good or on the side of evil.
- The words express what is in your heart. They indicate whether in your heart there is an abundance of good or there is an abundance of evil.
- The evil man treasures evil. That is why he stores it up. You only treasure what you love. You don't treasure what you don't love.

Seared Conscience

■ I Timothy 4:1-2

- This word 'seared' means that something is 'branded', 'burned', or 'destroyed'.
- And a conscience that is destroyed leaves no more room for the Holy Spirit to speak to that person.
- It has become insensitive to the convictions of God's Spirit. If a person does not hear his conscience anymore, he will never ask for forgiveness.
- And if he never asks for forgiveness, his sins can never be forgiven. Therefore we can say that the unforgivable sin is the searing of the conscience.

No Remedy

■ II Chronicles 36:15-16

- Notice those last words, 'until there was no remedy,' until there was no pardon for them.
- The people despised the word of the Lord and mocked His prophets. God's anger against Judah reached 'a point of no return.'
- That is when the king of Babylon came and completely destroyed Judah. Those who escaped from the sword were sent into exile to Babylon.



No Remedy

■ Proverbs 29:1

- A man who hardens his neck after much reproof will suddenly be broken beyond remedy.
- Notice that this person has been reproofed many times, and like the nation of Judah, they would not listen. They rejected all admonitions. They had a stiff neck, a hardened heart, a seared conscience.



Application

■ Ezekiel 18:23; 33:11

- But when a person keeps hardening his heart against God's will, ignoring the voice of his conscience, this individual will reach a point of no return, a condition of spiritual abandonment from which he cannot be recovered.
- Always be teachable, having a conscience that is open to God. We want to keep our conscience pure.

