

BLASPHEMING the HOLY SPIRIT – Part One



Let's take a look at blasphemy in the 1828 dictionary:

Blasphe**me** – to speak of the Supreme Being in terms of impious irreverence; to revile or speak reproachfully of God, or the Holy Spirit. 1 Kings 21, Mark 3

2. To arrogate the prerogatives of God. Arrogate is to take or claim without justification. Ex: This man blasphemeth. Who can forgive sins but God? Matt. 9 , Mark 2

Blaspheming – Uttering impious or reproachful words concerning God. Impious – not showing respect or reverence, especially toward a god – for us it would be toward God.

Blasphemous – Containing blasphemy; calumnious (false and defamatory, slanderous); impiously irreverent or reproachful towards God.

Blasphemy – An indignity offered to God by words or writing; reproachful, contemptuous or irreverent words uttered impiously against the Lord.

Blasphemy is an injury offered to God, by denying that which is due and belonging to Him, or attributing to Him that which is not agreeable to His nature. – Linwood

Luke 7:24-35 – And when the messengers of John were departed, He began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind? But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts. But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet. This is *he*, of whom it is written,

Behold, I send My messenger before Thy face, which shall prepare Thy way before Thee. For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. And all the people that heard *Him*, and the publicans (tax collectors) , justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers (teachers of the law) rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him. And the Lord said, Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like? They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept. For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil (demon). The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans (tax collectors) and sinners! But wisdom is justified of all her children.

The Pharisees had hardened hearts. They were so bound up in their own rules and regulations that they would not hear John the Baptist. He had God's anointing on Him and was sent to prepare the people's hearts for the coming of Jesus.

Luke 1:13-17 - But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias (Zechariah): for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth (Elizabeth) shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink (fermented drink); and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost (Spirit), even from his mother's womb. And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God (he will bring back to the Lord their God). And he shall go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias (Elijah), to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Notice that he was filled with the Holy Spirit even while he was still in the womb. This was at a time of transition because if you read and study the Old Testament you will see that the Holy Spirit was never in the person but only came on them.

That is why King David prayed for God not to take His Holy Spirit from him. Now in the New Testament, the Holy Spirit dwells in the believers. For those still not believing that a fetus, a baby in the womb, is alive and has a right to life, there's your answer right there. God knows us even at the moment of conception and has good plans for our lives. John's life was ordained by God even before he was ever conceived. Babies are a blessing from God.

John was a nazirite, totally consecrated to God. And yet they said he had a demon. Jesus was eating and drinking and they called Him a gluttonous man and a drunkard. Jesus' last statement was about Himself, "wisdom is justified of all her children," meaning that those who had eyes to see and ears to hear would know Whom He was and would follow Him. But those whose hearts were hardened and had blinded eyes would only fight against Him.

Open Bible

Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit - **Attributing Christ's miracles to satan**

Matt.12:22-32 – Then was brought unto Him one possessed with a devil (demon), blind, and dumb (mute): and He healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the Son of David? But when the Pharisees heard *it*, they said, This *fellow* doth not cast out devils (demons), but by Beelzebub (Beelzeboul) the prince of the devils (ruler of demons). And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: And if satan cast out satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? And if I by Beelzebub (Beelzeboul) cast out devils (demons), by whom do your children cast *them* out? therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out devils (demons) by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods (carry off his possessions), except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house (then he can plunder his house). He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad. Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin (every kind of sin) and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy *against* the *Holy* Ghost

(Spirit) 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 (Spirit), it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world (age), neither in the *world* to come (neither in the age to come).



So we see in this passage that the Pharisees said Jesus was doing deliverance by satan's power. Jesus was always having to rebuke the religious leaders.

Luke 11:46-51 - And He said, Woe unto you also, ye lawyers (experts in the law)! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne (you crush people with unbearable religious demands), and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers. Woe unto you! for ye build the sepulchres (tombs) of the prophets, and your fathers killed them. Truly ye bear witness that ye allow the deeds of your fathers: for they indeed killed them, and ye build their sepulchres (tombs). Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles, and *some* of them they shall slay and persecute (kill and persecute): That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation; From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias (Zechariah), which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation. (this generation will be responsible for it all).

NLT

Luke 11:48 - But in fact, you stand as witnesses who agree with what your ancestors did. They killed the prophets, and you join in their crime by building the monuments!

These Pharisees and religious leaders were carrying on the wickedness of their forefathers who had killed God's prophets. They were acting like they were not cut from the same cloth as their fathers but they were insincere and only making a flamboyant outward show with these elaborate tombs they were making. Jesus knew they were shady dogs. They wanted to kill Jesus and eventually did. He knew their heart and they were just like their ancestors who killed God's prophets. Jesus made a point about asking them who their children, meaning their students and disciples, who they cast out demons by? They were so wicked and insincere that He told them their own students would be their judge. Jesus' point was that their disciples were casting out demons by God's power and so was He. But they were so stubborn and hard hearted they would not even admit but went so far as to say He was doing this by the power of satan.

Let's look at another example of how wicked the Pharisees were:

Acts 6:12-15 – (This is about Stephen) And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon *him*, and caught him, and brought *him* to the council (Sanhedrin), And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law: For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us. And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

The Sanhedrin was headed by a high priest. So it was not just political figures. The Sanhedrin had religious, civil and criminal jurisdiction. They saw his face and the glory of God showing so strongly on Stephen that his face looked like the face of an angel and yet they still were so filled with hate and jealousy that they went ahead and stoned him anyway.

When you know that you know you are seeing the power of God at work and then you speak against it and attribute it to satan, then you have blasphemed the Holy Spirit. If you aren't sure or you are questioning that is one thing and if you aren't sure then you should keep your mouth shut. But when you purposely oppose the work of the Holy Spirit saying it is actually satan at work, then you have blasphemed for sure.

CLOSING

1 Tim.1:12-15 – (Paul teaching) And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me (given me strength), for that He counted me faithful (trustworth), putting me into the ministry (appointed me to serve Him); Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious (abusive): but I obtained mercy, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief.

I wanted you to see that passage and notice how Paul says he did those things in ignorance and unbelief. That means he did not realize he was fighting against God when he was persecuting the church. He did not have understanding and did not know that he was against God when he was trying to kill and persecute the Christians. Those religious leaders who blasphemed the Holy Spirit knew full well what they were doing when they did it.

PRAYER