

"GUILTY OF AN ETERNAL SIN"; MARK 3:22-30

-The Insulting Accusation-

MATTHEW 12:22-24

²² Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. ²³ And all the people were amazed, and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul..."

True reality is not as they suppose;

Satan is now bound now as regards God's people;

COLOSSIANS 2:15

¹⁵ *He disarmed the rulers and authorities* and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

LUKE 10:17-18

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" ¹⁸ And he said to them, *"I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."*

MATTHEW 16:18

¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and *the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

The often overlooked but equally staggering statement;

ACTS 16:31

³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..."

JOHN 6:40

⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that *everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life...*"

1 JOHN 1:9

⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

PSALM 103:10

¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

JOHN 6:37

³⁷ All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.

-The Serious Warning-

What it does not mean and why;

What it does mean and why;

Our words reveal our heart;

MATTHEW 12:34

³⁴ ...For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

The role of miracles in the ministry of the Christ;

JOHN 14:11

¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else *believe on account of the works themselves*.

JOHN 20:30-31

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ *but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ*, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The role of the Spirit in the ministry of the Christ;

LUKE 1:35

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "*The Holy Spirit will come upon you*, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God."

ROMANS 1:4

⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power *according to the Spirit of holiness* by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord...

ACTS 10:38

³⁸ ...God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil...

The unforgiveable sin is resolute and rebellious unbelief in the face of clear enlightenment resulting in knowledge of the Christ. Enlightenment leads to greater and more resolute rebellion.

The same sin in the Old Testament;

HEBREWS 12:17

¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, *for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.*

NUMBERS 15:28-31

²⁸ And the priest shall make atonement before the LORD for the person who makes a mistake, when he sins unintentionally ...³⁰ But the person who does anything with a high hand, whether he is native or a sojourner, reviles the LORD, and that person shall be cut off from among his people. ³¹ Because he has despised the word of the LORD..."

The fuller treatment of the sin in the epistles;

1 JOHN 5:16

¹⁶ If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life...*There is sin that leads to death*; I do not say that one should pray for that.

1 JOHN 2:18-24

¹⁸ Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come... ¹⁹ *They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us.* But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. ²⁰ *But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.* ²¹ *I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it...* ²² Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son ... ²⁴ *Let what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father.*

HEBREWS 6:4-6

⁴ For it is impossible, in the case of those *who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit*, ⁵ and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶ and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

The heart of the sin: resolute rebellion in the face of significant enlightenment;

Blasphemy is the apex of evil's manifestation. Enlightened blasphemy is the apex of the apex.

Two opposing pictures;

Астя 7:54

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, *and they ground their teeth at him.*

1 Тімотну 1:13

¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. *But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief...*

The connection between knowledge and degrees of guilt;

JOHN 9:39-41

³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, *that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.*" ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains."

ROMANS 1:18-20

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived...So they are without excuse.

HEBREWS 10:26-29

²⁶ For if we go on sinning deliberately *after receiving the knowledge of the truth*, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has *outraged the Spirit of grace*?

-Applications-

All sin has within its nature a variety of expressions;

EPHESIANS 4:17-30

¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the *futility of their minds*. ¹⁸ *They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart*. ¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ...²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ *and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds*, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil...³⁰ *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God*, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

This warning is found in various forms in at least six places in Scripture;

God is Truth. What His creatures do with His Truth is immeasurably important to Him.

A place for fear;

2 CORINTHIANS 7:1

¹ ...let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, *bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God*.

PROVERBS 9:10

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

All believers are under the constant tutelage of the Spirit;

Spiritual flippancy and vibrant life in Christ are mutually contradictory.

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