**What Is Sin – Lesson 3: Unpardonable Sin**

**Jeremiah 17:9** The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

**Did we learn our lesson? Study Questions from lesson 2 (A World of Sin)**

1. According to Ephesians 2:2, who does the prince of the power of the air work in?

*Answer: The children of disobedience*

1. According to Job 1:7, what liberty is given to Satan?

*Answer: To go up and down in the earth (free reign over the world).*

1. According to Isaiah 30:18, what characteristic of God facilitates reconciliation?

*Answer: God’s graciousness.*

1. According to Exodus 19:5, what is the reward of obedience to God’s law?

*Answer: Ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people*

1. Complete the following scripture:

**Romans 8:8** So then they that are in the **flesh** cannot **please** God.

**True / False**

**True** In addition to the 10 Commandments there are many other laws (LEV,DEUT,NUM - 603)

**True** The children of Israel were to be a kingdom of priests. (EX 19:6)

**True** God gives the unrepentant a reprobate mind. (ROM 1:28)

**True** All flesh seeks to sin. (ROM 7:18-20)

**Lesson 3: Unpardonable Sin**

"I didn’t know…” - Common expression (origin unknown – Probably Adam)

An all too common excuse for someone to justify not making the right choice:

* Not my fault (I should not be held accountable)
* Someone else should have told me (it is their responsibility – they should be accountable)

When before God, this will not be an acceptable defense.

Unpardonable sin will be considered from the current dispensation of GRACE, as it applies to humanity today.

**What we know**

1. The law is perfect as it is the representation of God’s will (**Psalm 19:7**)
2. Sin is transgression of the law (**1 John 3:4**)
3. Christ is the fulfillment of law – The perfection of God is manifest in Christ Jesus

**Matthew 5:17-18**

**(17)** Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil

**(18)** For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

1. Anyone in Christ (a believer) has the Spirit of God within (the indwelling of the Holy Spirit) – They are a ‘new creature’:

**Romans 8:11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

**2 Corintians 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

1. Anyone in Christ (a believer), it is the righteousness of Christ that God will account to them, their accountability to the law is fulfilled in Christ:

**Galatians 2:16, 20-21**

**(16)** Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

- It is the righteousness of Christ that justifies the believer (not accountability to the law)

**(20)** I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

- The righteousness of Christ is imputed because Christ is within you

**(21)** I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

- The believer recognizes that their righteousness is of Christ – It is the grace of God, not accountability to law.

**Does the LAW still exists today – Is it still in affect?**

**1 Timothy 1:9** Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers

- For those without Christ, the law is the standard against which they will be measured: To enter heaven, adherence to the law must be complete:

**Matthew 5:48** Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

**Mark 3:28-29 – Christ defines the ‘unpardonable sin’**

**(28)** Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith so ever they shall blaspheme:

* The actual acts of bad behavior are not the focus of God in this dispensation of Grace. The accountability to each rule is a moot point:

**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God

* + All humanity is of the flesh of Adam: Condemned
  + It is only the ‘new creature’ (the believer, with Christ indwelling) that is exempt

**(29)** But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:

* As acts against the law can be forgiven, Christ identifies one act that cannot be accepted by God – The rejection of the Holy Spirit

**Compare to Matthew 12:30-32**

**(30)** He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad

- Christ establishes the dividing line: A person is either with Christ, or against (no middle)

**(31)** Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

- It is not our activity in the world that condemns humanity: It is the rejection of God (through blasphemy of the Holy Spirit)

**(32)** 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.

- Rejection is defined as ‘speaking’. Therefore, the act resulting in permanent judgement cannot be an act of commission, such as murder, divorce, stealing, suicide, brawling, etc.

Consider the act of acceptance of Christ:

**Romans 10:9-10 –** God listens to what you have to say

**(9)** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

**(10)** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

- Speaking is not merely vibrations in the air – It is the pronouncement of your heart, and God takes you for your word, just as we should take God at His word

**Matthew 15:17-20** – Jesus expounds on ‘speaking’

**(17)** Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught?

**(18)** But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

**(19)** For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

**(20)** These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.

In this dispensation of GRACE, there is only one ‘unpardonable sin’ – To reject the gospel of Jesus Christ:

* This is rejection of the gift of God

**Ephesians 2:8** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.

* + This is rejection of salvation

**Acts 4:12** Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved

* + Jesus Christ is the only gift of God that provides a path to heaven

**To reject Christ is to reject God – This is the very rejection of salvation, and cannot be accepted by God: It is unpardonable.**

**What Is Sin – Lesson 3: Unpardonable Sin**

**Study Questions**

1. According to Romans 8:11, where is the Spirit of God for the believer?

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1. According to 1 Timothy 1:9, who is the law not made for?

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1. According to Mark 3:29, what act carries eternal damnation?

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1. According to Romans 10:10, what is the power of speech?

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1. Complete the following scripture:

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**True / False**

T F Jesus Christ fulfilled the law of God.

T F The law of God is still in effect.

T F Humanity can attain perfection to the law.

T F One’s speech reveals one’s heart.