

Sins Against the Holy Spirit

Based on a lesson by Keith Sharp -

<http://www.padfield.com/acrobat/sermons/HolySpirit.pdf>

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- I. Introduction
 - a. Every sin is against God – Psa. 51: 4
 - b. But some more directly than others
 - c. Several sins in Scripture are described as being directly against the Holy Spirit
- II. Blasphemy – Matt. 12:31-32
 - a. Won't God forgive any sin?
 - i. Yes –
 - ii. Is. 1:18 – Even sins like scarlet
 - iii. 1 Tim. 1:15 – Even the chief of sinners
 - b. What is going on here then?
 - i. Jesus had performed a miracle to prove he was from God – v. 23
 - ii. The Pharisees weren't denying the miracle, but attributed it to Satanic powers – v. 24
 - iii. This was absurd, and Jesus said so – v. 25-30
 1. They were hypocritical and self-deceived
 - iv. He accused them of an unpardonable sin – How so?
 1. If divine miracles only produced blasphemy, what could cause them to change their minds?
 - c. Can we commit this sin?
 - i. No – There are Divine miracles to witness in our day
 1. So this specific sin is not one that is committed today.
 2. But
 - a. some deny the miracles altogether
 - b. Or attribute the work of the Holy Spirit to fallible men or corrupt religious leader
 - ii. Others are hardened so it is near-impossible to bring them to repentance
 1. Some do not want to hear in the first place – Matt. 13:13-15
 2. Others turn away from what they have heard – Heb. 3:7-13;6:4-6
- III. Resist – Acts 7:51-53
 - a. Resist - Fall upon, run against, strive against, oppose, Thayer
 - b. It is to attempt to prevent the Holy Spirit from accomplishing His work
 - c. You know what the Holy Spirit want and you try to stop it
 - i. They tried to silence the Holy Spirit's messengers
 - ii. Even killing them
 - iii. Christ
 - iv. And now Stephen – v. 54-60

- d. Like Moses – Num. 27:14 – “rebelled against my word”
 - e. When human resist God’s messengers, they are opposing God Himself – Luke 10:16
- IV. Test – Acts 5:9
- a. Not tempting in the sense of inducing to sin, but testing
 - b. Ananias and Sapphira did this by attempting to deceive the inspired apostle of God
 - i. They wanted to see if they could get away with it
 - ii. They couldn’t
 - iii. Great fear came upon the church
 - c. We should be fearful to try to be deceitful
 - i. We may wonder if we can get away with it
 - ii. We may put one over on our enemy or friend our customer or neighbor or even a close family member
 - iii. But God knows, and dishonesty is testing Him and His Spirit
 - iv. We NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT
 - 1. Either Jesus pays the price for us
 - 2. Or we pay the price at the judgment
 - v. Do NOT test the Spirit of the Lord!
- V. Grieve – Eph. 4:30
- a. Any parent is grieved when their children act contrary to their parent’s love and wishes
 - b. God is grieved when His children sin
 - c. The spirit is a seal of our inheritance
 - i. It identifies us as God’s children
 - ii. Some would confine this to the miraculous spiritual gifts that some Christians had in the first few generations of the church
 - iii. But my own view is that it refers to the Spirit-led life that produces the fruit of the Holy Spirit
 - iv. This identifies us as God’s children
 - v. But we sometimes bear both good and bad fruit, and this is not as it should be
 - d. If we act as though we were children of the world, we grieve the Holy Spirit
 - i. Disobedience
 - ii. Strife among God’s children
- VI. Quench – 1 Thess. 5:19
- a. To suppress or stifle, to extinguish
 - i. Some brethren did not want to pay attention to the spiritual gifts of others
 - ii. 1 Th. 5:20-21
 - iii. Some not want to use their own gifts
 - 1. Timothy – 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6
 - b. We don’t have miraculous spiritual gifts today
 - i. But we should encourage others to use their gifts
 - ii. And not suppress our own gifts either

1. Buried Talents
 2. Minister our gifts as good stewards – 1 Pet. 4:10
- VII. Insult/Outrage – Heb. 10:28-29
- a. A very strong word for contemptuous insult
 - b. How does this happen?
 - i. When we willfully sin – v. 26
 - ii. After all that God has done for us
 - iii. To turn away from him puts us in the position of personally insulting the God who made us, sustains us and saved us.
 - c. We deserve worse than to die without mercy! – v. 27-29
 - d. And we will get what is coming to us – 30-31
 - i. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God
- VIII. Conclusion
- a. When the Holy Spirit speaks or acts, we must be on guard to avoid
 - i. Rejecting the testimony of the Spirit in unbelief
 - ii. Resisting the Holy Spirit by refusing the Gospel
 - iii. Tempt the spirit by sin and disobedience
 - iv. Grieve the Spirit of the Lord through sin
 - v. Quench the Spirit by discouraging others in their service to God or neglecting our own work
 - vi. Or insulting the Holy Spirit by willfully turning away from His word to a life of sin
 - b. If you are not a Christian, the Spirit has an express desire for each one of us this morning – Rev. 22:17
 - i. Will you hear and obey?
 1. Or will you refuse the call of the Spirit of the Living God
 2. And the call of the Bride of Christ?
 - ii. Come to Jesus today!