Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit

What does it mean?

"Blasphemy"

Defined: Contempt or indignity offered to God. It is to revile, slander, speak lightly or amiss of sacred things or Persons. It is a sin not of the lips alone, but issues from the heart (Matthew 15:19). The same word is translated elsewhere as "evil speaking" (Ephesians 4:31).

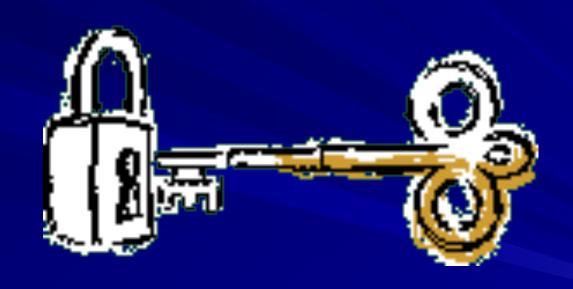
Luke 12:10

"And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven."

Many fear they have committed this "unpardonable sin"

What's nearly always the key to proper biblical interpretation?

Context is nearly always the key to proper biblical interpretation



Three Critical Texts

- 1. Matthew 12:31-32
- 2. Mark 3:28-30
- 3. Luke 12:10

Matthew 12:31-32

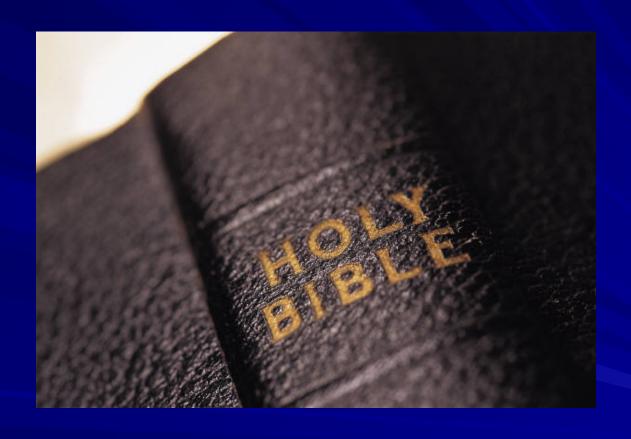
31 "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.

32 "And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or the age to come."

Mark 3:28-30

- 28 "Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter;
- 29 "but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation"—
- 30 because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Mark 3:20ff



Reasonable Conclusions about "Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit"

- 1. It is a <u>continual</u> attitude ("speaks against" in Matthew 12 is a present tense verb)
- 2. It is a <u>verbal</u> action (not thinking, but speaking)
- 3. It is a sin and act of <u>full knowledge</u> (cannot be committed by someone in ignorance)
- 4. It is willful disregard for God's mercy and grace . . .

Reasonable Conclusions about "Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit"

- 5. It is to ascribe to <u>Satan</u> the works of the <u>Holy Spirit</u>
- 6. It's root cause is <u>rebellion</u> and unbelief
- 7. It cannot be committed by a Christian
- Why?
- Because it is a sin that cannot be forgiven

Benefits of "Walking According To The Spirit" in Romans 8:1-39

- 1. No Condemnation (1)
- 2. Spiritually Minded (6)
- 3. Life and Peace (6)
- 4. Resurrection (11)
- 5. Sonship (14)
- 6. Assurance (15-16)
- 7. Inheritance (17)
- 8. Hope (24)...

Benefits of "Walking According To The Spirit" in Romans 8:1-39

- 9. Patience (25)
- 10. Prayer (26)
- 11. Purpose (28)
- 12. Triumph! (35-39)

