

DOCTRINE OF BLASPHEMY

- I.** Greek vocabulary and general introduction.
 - A.** Βλασφημέω – blasphemeo; used 34x; speak against, blaspheme.
 - B.** Βλασφημία – blasphemia; used 18x; blasphemy, slander.
 - C.** Βλάσφημος – blasphemous; used 4x; blasphemous.
 - D.** This word group is used of verbal sins directed toward God, (Luk.12:10; Jam.2:7) and verbal sins towards others i.e., slander (Mar.7:22; Eph.4:11; Rom.3:8; Col.3:8; 1Tim.6:4).
 - E.** This doctrine will address blasphemy against God and His plan (Cp.Rev.13:6; 16:9,11,21) to include blasphemy against the Holy Spirit (Cp.Mat.12:31b,32b; Mar.3:29).
 - F.** Blasphemy is any mental or verbal repudiation of God's plan. Act.18:6

- II.** All blasphemy is subject to divine forgiveness. Mat.12:31a,32a

- III.** The single exception is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Mt.12:32; Mk.3:28,29; Luk.12:10 cp. Act.18:6
 - A.** Synonyms for this sin include:
 - 1) Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.
 - 2) To speak against the Holy Spirit.
 - 3) An eternal sin.
 - 4) Sometimes coined theologically as “the unforgivable/unpardonable sin” or “sin against the Holy Spirit”.
 - B.** In the Mat.12:31-31 account, the preceding context (vss.22-30) determines the specific meaning of the blasphemy in view.
 - C.** After Christ healed the demon-possessed blind and dumb man (vs.22), it stimulated the question as to who and what Christ was in healing such a person (vs.23).
 - D.** The Pharisees in repudiation to any correct conclusions charged Christ with demon possession in collusion with Satan (vs.24 cp.Mar.3:22).
 - E.** Christ then used the illustrations of the divided kingdom and house analogies (vss.25-30 cp.Mar.3:23-27) to refute their allegations.
 - F.** The Pharisees engaged in blasphemy against Christ two-fold; slander (charging Christ with an untruth) and not believing in His Person as the Son of God. Cp.Joh.10:33
 - G.** Christ complete statement recognized both aspects of their blasphemy:
 - 1) All sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven men (attributing Christ with an untruth i.e., slander). Vss.31a,32a cp. Mar.3:28; Luk.12:10a
 - 2) The exception is blasphemy against the H.S. that shall not be forgiven recognizing their continued state of unbelief in His Person. Vss.31b-32b
 - 3) This sin is unforgivable in this life and the next (vs.32b).

- 4) Therefore it is called an eternal sin. Mar.3:29
- H.** The true view of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit:
- 1) It is unbelief at the point of gospel hearing perpetuated to the point of physical death.
 - 2) It is rejection of God the Holy Spirit's basic Ph₁ evangelizing ministry revealing the gospel. Cp.Joh.16:8-11
 - 3) It is called blasphemy because unbelief calls God a liar concerning Christ.
 - 4) Furthermore, only the unbeliever can commit it.
 - 5) It must be understood in the light of unlimited atonement, God consciousness and volition.
- I.** False views of this sin include:
- 1) It is a verbal sin, as per profanity.
 - 2) It is a series of decision to not believe in Christ resulting in God refusing to save the individual later on.
 - 3) It is a unique sin, only capable of being committed by eyewitnesses of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. Systematic Theology, Chafer, Vol.V, pgs.47,48
 - 4) Ascribing the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan.
- J.** Refutation of the false views:
- 1) There is no exception as to how someone is eternally condemned. Joh.3:36
 - 2) The false views confuse blasphemy against the Son with blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.
- IV.** False religion like Judaism is blasphemy, since it imputes to God doctrines and policies foreign to Him. Rom.2:24 cp. Rev.2:9
- A.** Paul, as a professional rabbi, was a blasphemer. 1Tim.1:13 cp.Act.26:11
 - B.** Jews blasphemed Jesus and His teaching. Mat.27:39; Mar.15:29; Luk.22:65
 - C.** The religious crowd charged Jesus with this sin. Mat.9:3; 26:65; Luk.22:65; Joh.10:33,36; Mar.2:7; 14:64
- V.** Blasphemy is incited when God's people misrepresent God's plan. Rom.2:24; 3:8; 14:16; 1Tim.6:1; Tit.2:5; 2Pet.2:2; 2Sam.12:14
- VI.** Blasphemy is tied to negative volition and ignorance. 1Tim.1:13
- VII.** Blasphemy and the last days. 2Tim.3:2
- A.** False teachers engage in it. 2Pet.2:2,10,12 (example: homosexuality is of God)
 - B.** Antichrist and his political and religious movement. Rev.13:1,5,6; 17:3.
- VIII.** Believers that reject the faith commit this sin. 1Tim.1:19-20