

## *“It Is Written:”*

Subtitled: *“Watch What You Say, About the Holy Ghost”*

### **Text:**

**Matthew 12:31.** *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.*

**Matthew 12:32.** *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.*

### **Definitions:**

1. **Unpardonable** – indefensible, inexcusable, unforgivable, deplorable, reprehensible, intolerable, awful. (**Antonym** – understandable - )
2. **Sin** – peccadillo, offense, failing, indulgence, crime, transgression, wrongdoing, vice. (**Antonym** – Virtue – asset, good quality, good feature, desirable quality, good value, good worth, high merit, high caliber)
3. **Blasphemy** – profanity, sacrilege, wickedness, irreverence, swear word, oath, vulgarity, curse, bad language.
4. **Contrite** – sorry, remorseful, repentant, regretful, apologetic, penitent, ashamed

**Mark 3:29** *But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:*

**Mark 3:30** *Because they said,” “He hath an unclean spirit.”*

Church, it was apparent that the doctrine of Christ had a direct tendency to break the devil's power; and it was just as clear, that the casting of him out of the bodies of people, confirmed that teaching or principle. My brethren, for that reason alone, Satan could not support such a plan. Brothers and sisters, Christ gave a shocking and most upsetting warning against one that speaks speaking such dangerous words against the Holy Spirit. It is true the gospel promises, because Christ has purchased, forgiveness for the greatest sins and sinners; but by the sin of blasphemy, one opposes the gifts of the Holy Ghost after Christ's ascension. Saints, such is the resistance and conflict of the heart, which unconverted or unchanged men act as if believers are doing Satan's work, when sinners are brought to repentance and newness of life.

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My friends, it is a great comfort to all true Christians, that they are more precious to Christ than mother, brother, or sister, as such, merely as relations in the flesh would have been, even if they had been holy. Blessed be God, because this great and gracious privilege is ours even now; for though Christ's bodily presence cannot be enjoyed by us, His spiritual presence we are not denied.

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**II. “Luke Speaks”**

**Acts 7:51** *Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.*

**Acts 7:52** *Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:*

**Acts 7:53** *Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.*

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*Church*, Stephen was just about, it seems, to show that the temple and the temple service must come to an end, because it would be the glory of both to give way to the worship of the Father in spirit and in truth, but he perceived they would not bear it. Therefore he broke off, and by the Spirit of wisdom, courage, and power, sharply rebuked his persecutors. My friends, when straightforward advice and truth provoke those that be in opposition to the gospel, they must be shown their guilt and danger. Yes they, like their fathers, were stubborn and willful. My Christian friends, there is that in our sinful hearts, which always resists the Holy Ghost, a flesh that lusts against the Spirit and wars against His motions; but in the hearts of God's elect, when the fullness of time comes, this resistance is overcome. Saints the gospel was offered at the present time, not by angels, but from the Holy Ghost; yet they did not embrace it, for they were resolved not to obey God, either in His law or in His gospel. Therefore, their guilt stung them to the heart, and they sought relief in murdering their accuser, instead of having sorrow and prayer request for mercy.

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**III. “John Speaks”**

**John 7:12** *And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people.*

**John 7:13** *Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews.*

. Church, God at length sent His Son, His Well-beloved; and it may perhaps be expected that He whom their Master loved, they too should respect and love; but instead of honoring Him because He was the Son and Heir, they for that reason, hated Him. Nevertheless the exaltation of Christ was the Lord's doing; and it is His doing to exalt Him in our hearts and to set up His throne there; and if this be done, it cannot but be marvelous in our eyes. The Scriptures, and faithful preachers, and the coming of Christ in the flesh, call on us to give due praise to God in our lives. Consequently, let sinners beware of a proud, carnal spirit; if they revile or despise the preachers of Christ, they would have done so their Master, if they had lived when He was upon earth.

Saints of God, the enemies of Christ would be thought wanting to know their duty, when really they hoped that which ever side He took of the question, they might find occasion to accuse Him. My Christian friends, nothing is more likely to ensnare the followers of Christ, than bringing them to interfere with disputes about meaningful governmental affairs. My friends, even Jesus avoided the snare, by referring to the surrender they had already made as a nation; and all that heard Him, marveled at the great wisdom of His answer. Many will praise the words of a sermon, which will not be commanded by the doctrines of it.

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**IV. “John Continues To Speak and He Concludes His Discourse”**

**John 7:52** *They answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet.*

**John 7:53** *And every man went unto his own house.*

John reminds us of the malice of Christ's enemies and that it is always against reason, and sometimes the staying of it cannot be accounted for. Church never before

have any man spoke with that wisdom, and power, and grace, that convincing clearness, and that sweetness, wherewith Christ spoke. Unfortunately many, who are for a time restrained, and who speak highly of the word of Jesus, speedily lose their convictions, and go on in their sins! Saints of God, people are foolishly won over by outward motives in matters of eternal moment, are willing even to be damned for fashion's sake. As the wisdom of God often chooses things which men despise, so the folly of men commonly despises those whom God has chosen. Yes my friends, the Lord brings forward His weak and timid disciples, and sometimes uses them to defeat the designs of His enemies.

V. **“Paul Clarifies, Summaries and Provides”**

**1 Timothy 1:12** *And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;*

**1 Timothy 1:13** *Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.*

**1 Timothy 1:14** *And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.*

**1 Timothy 1:15** *This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*

**1 Timothy 1:16** *Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.*

**1 Timothy 1:17** *Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

My Christian friends, Paul the apostle knew that he would have honestly perished, if the Lord had been unsympathetic, and insensitive to point out what was wrong; and what's more, if His grace and mercy had not been abundantly plentiful to him when he was dead in sin, working faith and love to Christ in his heart. Church, this is a faithful saying and these words are faithful and true, which may be depended on, *“That the Son of God came into the world, willingly and purposely to save sinners.”* No man, with Paul's example before him, can question the love and power of Christ to save him, if he really desires to trust in Him as the Son of God, who once died on the cross, and now reigns upon the throne of glory, to save all that come to God through Him. Therefore, let

us then admire and praise the grace of God our Savior; and ascribe to the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three Persons in the unity of the Godhead, the glory of all done in, by, and for us.

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As I conclude with my text for today, now is a gracious assurance of the pardon of all sin upon gospel terms. Christ here has set an example to the sons of men, to be ready to forgive words spoken against them. Yes we must humble and be conscientious believers, at all times to keep from tempted to think they have committed the unpardonable sin, while those who have come the nearest to it, seldom have any fear about it. Saints of God, we may be sure that those who without a doubt, repent and believe the gospel, have not committed this sin, or any other of the same kind; for repentance and faith are the special gifts of God, which He would not give any man, if He were determined never to pardon him. Church, those who fear they have committed this sin, gives a good sign that they have not. Yes the trembling, contrite sinner has the witness in himself that this is not his case.