

# Jesus and the Unforgivable Sin

Mark 3:22-30

#### Read Mark 3:22-30 together:

<sup>22</sup> And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." <sup>23</sup> And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup> If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup> And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup> And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. <sup>27</sup> But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

<sup>28</sup> "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, <sup>29</sup> but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" — <sup>30</sup> for they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

- ? What is the context of this passage?
- ? What had happened before this exchange with the scribes and Pharisees?
- ? The Kingdom of God was breaking through to human history. What wrong conclusions did the scribes and Pharisees come to regarding Jesus' ability to heal and forgive sins?
- ? Have you ever had an incorrect belief about Jesus or God? What was it? What helped to correct your wrong belief?

### **Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit:**

- ? Who is the Holy Spirit? What are some characteristics of the Holy Spirit?
- ? What are the characteristics of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?
- ? How does someone quench or grieve the Holy Spirit?
- ? How is this different from blaspheming the Holy Spirit?

#### The Unforgivable Sin:

- ? Will blasphemy against the Holy Spirit be forgiven?
- ? What does unforgiveness of sin lead to?
- ? Is there another source of hope and comfort available?

? Peter denied Jesus three times, and Saul persecuted Christians, yet Jesus pursued them with grace and mercy. Why are those sins forgivable and blasphemy is not?

#### The Good News:

- ? What is the good news that we have as Christians?
- ? How do we receive complete forgiveness of our sins?
- ? When Jesus cried, "It is finished," from the cross, what did he mean?

## **Application:**

- ? Do you have the confidence of knowing you are in Christ, and you are his?
- ? Take time this week to sit before the Father and let him speak to your heart. Repent, confess any sin, and rest assured that God is faithful and just to cleanse you from **all** unrighteousness!