

Bible Study and Notes

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN

(LESSON 23)

Bible Study

1. What sin will not be forgiven? **Matthew 12:30-32**

2. What does the Holy Spirit guide people into? **John 16:13**

3. What does the Holy Spirit convict people of (3 answers)? **John 16:7-8**

4. What action does the Holy Spirit lead the saints to partake of? **1 Corinthians 12:13**

5. John 10:28-29 promises a

guarantee of being saved, but what is the constant condition? **John 10:27**

6. What must one continue in to stay a disciple of Christ? **John 8:31**

7. What family relations may be affected by being a disciple of Christ? **Matthew 10:34-39**

8. What do the many Christians that will be lost according to Matthew 7:22-23 omit doing? **Matthew 7:21**

9. What is one of the reasons the Jews committed the unpardonable sin in Acts 7:51? **Acts 7:53**

10. What three-letter word makes God sad after He has made an appeal? **Luke 9:59-62**

What Is Significant About the Group of People That the Third Angel Reveals?

Revelation 14:12 tells us, "*Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*" God has saints that are keeping His commandments even right before the second coming (Revelation 14:12). They are not practicing sinners for if they are

keeping the commandments, they are not committing sin (1 John 3:4). They even avoid committing the unpardonable sin. Further, “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God” (1 John 3:9).

Is There an Unpardonable Sin?

Matthew 12:30-32 states, “He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad. 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. 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.” That is quite clear. There is no such thing as a half-baked Christian. We are either 100% with God or we are against Him. We can do basically whatever to Jesus and it will be forgiven when we truly repent and confess it, however, if we speak against the Holy Ghost, it will not be forgiven.

What Is the Work of The Holy Spirit?

To understand how one can speak against the Holy Spirit, we must first become familiar with what the Holy Spirit does. John 16:13 tells us, “*Howbeit when*

he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.” The primary work of the Holy Spirit is to guide us into all truth. Through these lessons, we can easily see that the truth sometimes hurts and has been hidden by many preachers who are more interested in their job than teaching truth.

When we feel as if we are being convicted of something and find ourselves wrestling with it, that is the Holy Spirit working. And as He leads people to more truth and they resist to walk in the new light, then they are committing the unpardonable sin. It reveals that the commitment of baptism was no commitment at all. It was simply to walk with Christ part of the way but not all of the way.

Basically, the Spirit is a calm Spirit leading people step by step to follow all that God prescribes transforming us into “new creatures” (2 Corinthians 5:17). The unpardonable sin is not any one particular sin, rather, it is a degree of sinning as brought out in Ephesians 4:30, which says, “*And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.*” When the Spirit leads to light and people reject it, then they begin down that road of committing the unpardonable sin. When the Spirit continues to prompt and people continue to reject it and reject it, then their hearts become hardened and hardened to the point that they will not hear the Spirit speaking to them anymore. When people

reach that point, they have then committed the unpardonable sin in the fullest degree.

What happens to those who do not follow the truth? We are told in 2 Thessalonians 2:10, “*And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.*” They will be lost. Truth does not need our agreement. It is the truth whether we believe or not. It is like the following poem:

*Truth never dies
though ages come and go,
Though mountains wear away,
and dynasties expire.
Still caught and handed to the
wise,
Is the simple fact that truth never
dies.*

(Author Unknown)

God is not looking for wimpy, sentimental, sugar coated faith. He is looking for people convicted of the truth and who are willing to stand up and even die, if necessary, for the truth. Revelation 12:11 states, “*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*”

It is like Gideon’s army. Gideon was told to gather together men to fight against the host of Midianites so as to set Israel free (Judges 6:14). When he surveyed his efforts, he found only 32,000 men to fight. Gideon prayed to God for more men, but God replied that he had too many men already and required a test. “*Whosoever [is] fearful and afraid, let him return and depart*” (Judges 7:3). Gideon lost 22,000 men. Those today who are fearful to be a “true”

Christian will not enter into the kingdom.

Gideon then prayed again for more men. God's reply was the same. God wanted to make sure the men were consecrated to Him so he required yet another test. *"Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink"* (Judges 7:5). Through this test, God wanted to see if they would be taken by the comforts of the world. There are many things the world offers in comfort. God wants to reveal who people serve, the world or Him? Gideon lost all but 300 men on this issue, but those 300 were consecrated and committed even to death. And God blessed them with a victory. Will you be committed even unto death? Will you be a part of His army?

Let us look at another work of the Holy Spirit. John 16:7-8 reveals, *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment."* Another purpose of the Holy Spirit, known as the Comforter, is to show people where they are transgressing God's law. He is to show people what is right. And He is to prepare people for the judgment that they may stand on that day when the Lord returns.

A lot of people do not like thinking of the Holy Spirit this way. They believe in a Spirit of feeling and are led by feelings.

A dear friend of mine told me once that she did not feel convicted to give up pork even when the doctor flat out told her that she was killing herself. There was once a man who did not feel he was being convicted of the Sabbath. In fact, he said that he would go home and wait on the Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit already spoke through the Word, which was inspired by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:21). But that man was determined. He said, "I'm going to pray that if I don't have to keep the Sabbath, it will rain cats and dogs on the Sabbath." What happened? It rained very hard. Why? Because some tithing paying, Sabbath keeping farmer was praying for rain. Not every feeling we get is from the Holy Spirit. Not every prayer is answered by God. There is only one sure way to know if the feeling is from God, if the prayer is answered by God, or not, and that is by asking, "Is it in the Bible? Is it a *'Thus Saith the Lord'*?"

Too many just do not accept the seriousness of sin. Many think that struggling against sin is working their way to heaven, yet God is plain. Hebrews 12:4-6 tells us, *"Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."*

Another work of the Spirit is recorded in John 12:35, which says, *"Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light*

with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth." The Spirit only calls you unto righteousness for so long. As people continue to reject His promptings, they are getting closer and closer to the day when they will no longer hear Him.

Another thing that the Holy Spirit does is recorded in 1 Corinthians 12:13, which says, *"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether [we be] Jews or Gentiles, whether [we be] bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."* He leads people to the waters of baptism. In each Bible example of baptism, a person from the church did the baptizing. The Bible also reveals that they are to be baptized into the teachings of Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20), in other words, His church. But many stop short. They are too fearful of making another mistake. They hesitate to take the final step and depend on faith. Remember, in the last days before the flood, those in the boat were saved. There were many in that day who felt they did not need to be in Noah's church, but history reveals that they were lost.

How Important Is Joining God's Organized Body?

To not join God's body is to resist God and the Holy Spirit. Look at what Jesus prayed for. John 17:11 tells us, *"And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep*

through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we [are]." People cannot be one on something if they do not meet on a regular basis. And nowhere in the Bible does it ever state for people are to remain to themselves. The theme throughout the Bible is fellowship, for that is even what heaven is going to be. It may be true that no church is perfect. Why? Because sinners are there. They are in the church, which is the hospital. Where else would you want them? But the issue is not the people. The issue is the doctrines. Are the doctrines right? It is at this level that one cannot be careless.

Now in regards to God's church, is it a matter of a town agreeing on the same doctrines, coming together for fellowship, and calling that church or is there a bigger picture? In other words, is God calling for independent churches around the world or a world wide organized body? How was it in the days of the Apostles? Acts 15:1-2 says, *"And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, [and said], Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question."* As we see, a doctrinal issue was raised several countries away from Israel of great magnitude, but they did not independently act upon the issue. They brought it to the "head quarters" located at that time in Jerusalem

and were ready to abide by the decision made. This is revealed by the spokesman James in Acts 15:28-31, which tells us, *"For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well. So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle: [Which] when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation."*

Is not willing to join God's prophetic movement of the last days a plot from Satan? Consider these words in addition to what has already been revealed:

1. Mark 3:25 states, *"And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand."* Having independent churches without being accountable to any other is a divided house.
2. Isaiah 14:12-14 says, *"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [how] art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High."* Notice that Satan made the

nations weak. How? Through independence instead of a world body. You see, what a church sees in the Bible under the circumstances in Africa may not be the same in the United States, yet there is still one Bible. There has to be Biblical unity. Being accountable to one another will bring that together. Further, did you notice the cry of Lucifer? "I" is everywhere. "I" is the declaration of independence while "our" is unity as denoted in the Lord's prayer – "Our Father."

3. Psalms 133:1 tells us, *"A Song of degrees of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant [it is] for brethren to dwell together in unity!"*
4. Ephesians 4:3 reveals, *"Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* We are to be bound together in peace, that is, to agree with one another in the Word.
5. Ephesians 4:13 says, *"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."* The goal is to become united in the faith. Keeping to an independent status is to work against that goal.
6. Romans 16:17 reveals, *"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them."* The spirit of

independence is to cause division.

7. 1 Corinthians 1:10 says, *"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and [that] there be no divisions among you; but [that] ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."*
8. 1 Corinthians 3:3-6 tells us, *"For ye are yet carnal: for whereas [there is] among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I [am] of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who [is] Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."* To think to stay independent is to think carnally and not spiritually.
9. John 17:21-23 reveals, *"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, [art] in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."* By being united to the worldwide movement is what will help others believe in God and the truth.

Does Any of This Really Matter to a Born Again Saved Person?

Once saved, always saved is based upon the fact that when one comes to Christ, that person can never be lost. That means that these studies might have been interesting but they are not a salvation issue. Well, if that is so, then Satan is a saved being and will have eternal life with Christ. If there was any being that believed on Jesus Christ, it was Lucifer. But once iniquity was found in him, he chosen to leave Jesus and is eternally lost. So how can a person claim the blood of Jesus and still continue in sin or least not daily improve their characters by the grace of God?

The danger of this theology is that it teaches disobedience is acceptable to God. It teaches that one may enter into eternal life although not living up to what they have seen in the Bible to be truth. This is deadly because Satan was cast out for disobedience, and no one will enter into heaven in disobedience or else God would have to let Satan back in.

Adam and Eve were kicked out of the garden over one disobedient act. Is it fair to have access to the Tree of Life brining in many disobedient acts?

But is it not true that when we come to Jesus, no one can take us out of His hands? John 10:28-29 says just that: *"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave [them] me, is greater than all; and no [man] is able to pluck*

[them] out of my Father's hand." It is true that no one can take saved people from God – not even the Devil, however, notice the first word – "And". That means these verses go with the previous verse. John 10:27 clearly states, *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."* Verses 28 and 29 are true as long as we continue daily to hear His voice and follow every step that He leads. If at any point we turn back or stop following, then we are no longer in a saving relationship and have chosen of our own free will to leave and will be lost. For those that persist in "once saved, always saved", Paul wrote, *"I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily"* (1 Corinthians 15:31).

In short, there is no future guarantee from our perspective for we still have the free will to turn aside from Christ or stop following His lead. This is not to say that we live in uncertainty and have no assurance for we have the assurance through Jesus Christ. This assurance is only jeopardized through the continuation of willfully committing known sin (Hebrews 10:26-27).

Let us get a few "Thus Saith the Lord's" on the fact that saved people can be lost in the end:

1. Ezekiel 3:20 says, *"Again, When a righteous [man] doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his*

blood will I require at thine hand."

2. Matthew 10:22 states, "And ye shall be hated of all [men] for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." If as a born-again Christian you cannot stand the heat of persecution and give up the faith, you will be lost.
3. Matthew 24:13 reveals, "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."
4. John 8:31-35 testifies, "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, [then] are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: [but] the Son abideth ever."
5. 1 Corinthians 15:1-2 makes it clear by saying, "Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain."
6. 2 Thessalonians 2:3 tells us, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first,

and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition."

7. 2 Peter 2:20-21 says, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them."
8. Revelation 2:4-5 states, "Nevertheless I have [somewhat] against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent."
9. Revelation 3:5 tells us, "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels." Keep in mind, that names are only recorded in the Book of Life when a person comes to Christ. The potential removal of names reveals that saved people can lose eternal life if they choose to give it up. Actual blotting out of names is revealed in Deuteronomy 29:20, which says, "The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD

and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven."

10. Revelation 3:11 says, "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." Jesus says it is possible that people can sweet talk us into leaving God's hand and lose our crown. One way is to listen to the voice that says in essence, you can live of the world or at least choose those things to obey that are convenient for once you give your life to Christ, it is a done deal – Once saved, always saved.
11. 2 Peter 1:10 tells us, "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall." Evidently being born again on a specific date is no surety of salvation if one does not diligently make their calling and election sure, which is a daily process.

And there are other verses if one diligently searches.

As an example, let us examine the story regarding Samson. And for those who think that once they accept Christ, there is no way of falling from Him, think on these things. Judges 13:24-25 opens up with, "And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him. And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol." Here we see the

Spirit of the Lord with Samson. Then Judges 14:6 tells us, "And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and [he had] nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done." Again, the Spirit is still striving with Samson. Judges 14:19 states, "And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil, and gave change of garments unto them which expounded the riddle. And his anger was kindled, and he went up to his father's house." Once more it is established that the Spirit is with Samson. Now notice when Samson backslides in Judges 16:20, which says, "And she said, The Philistines [be] upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him." If Samson were to have died at this point, he would have been lost. But praise God that the story does not end here. Judges 16:28-30 says, "And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes. And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left. And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with [all his] might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the

people that [were] therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than [they] which he slew in his life." The Lord obviously came back upon him to conduct such a feat. We know so because Hebrews 11:32 places Samson in a list of saved people.

What Is the Sin of Commission and Omission?

COMMISSION is the act of committing sins while OMISSION is the act of not doing good.

Let us compare the two by reading the following verses on the sins of COMMISSION:

Exodus 20:3 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

Exodus 20:4-6 "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness [of any thing] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God [am] a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth [generation] of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

Exodus 20:7 "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."

Exodus 20:8-11 "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou

labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates: For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Exodus 20:12 "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

Exodus 20:13 "Thou shalt not kill."

Exodus 20:14 "Thou shalt not commit adultery."

Exodus 20:15 "Thou shalt not steal."

Exodus 20:16 "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."

Exodus 20:17 "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that [is] thy neighbour's."

Now, the sins of OMISSION that we have studied in these lessons comes right from the Word of God and include:

1. Omitting to follow the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10). People will see various teachings such as abstaining from unclean meats and yet not follow it.
2. Omitting to forsake sin (John

16:7-8). People will be enlightened to the Sabbath being the seventh day and yet will not switch to keeping that day. Remember, God winks at past ignorance (Acts 17:30) but not at willful disobedience (Hebrews 10:26-27).

3. Omitting to do the will of God in righteousness (1 John 2:29). Following Jesus into baptism by immersion is specifically declared as following righteousness (Matthew 3:15) and yet people will accept any form they desire.
4. Omitting to have a full surrender to God (John 10:27). When God calls one out of Babylon into His body, people will give every excuse not to submit. People are comfortable in Babylon. Some of those who do come out are not willing to submit to joining His one-fold, one body, hence they reject blessings that God has prepared for them, and they stand on shaky ground.

What Can It Cost to Follow Jesus?

Matthew 10:34-39 tells us, *“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man’s foes [shall be] they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more*

than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.” It may make your family life unbearable and difficult. Your worse enemy could be right in your own family. But take courage. A blessing is promised to those who endure.

Matthew 16:24-26 says, *“Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any [man] will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”* Our physical life may be threatened. Our whole life may be turned upside down. But that is what God asks of us. Are you willing to take the challenge?

Now looking at a parable of Jesus, notice the application to a seminar setting. Luke 8:11-12 tells us, *“Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.”* This describes people like those who hear about the seminar and consider attending, but when they discuss it with others, they are talked out of attending.

Luke 8:13 says, *“They on the rock [are they], which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.”* These are those who made it to

the opening presentation and were excited about the message, but when sacrifices were needed to be made to continue attending, they fell away. Further, there are those who endure the length of the seminar, believe and are convicted of the truth, but when they are challenged, they become fearful and fall away. A really sad case is when those who have seen God’s truths are influenced away by those using a few verses with a whole bunch of human theories. Worse yet are those who fall away because they are offended by comments hurled at people or the church, which contain no Biblical support. These cases are sad because they forget that most people do not want to submit to God’s will, and they will find a verse or two out of context to provide a so-called loophole. They also forget that if worldly-minded people cannot refute the truth, one of the last resorts is to bring upon it all sorts of criticizing remarks.

Luke 8:14 reveals, *“And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of [this] life, and bring no fruit to perfection.”* These are those who attend a good portion of the meetings but when the truth starts to interfere with their lives, requiring changes to occur, they chose the world over a *“Thus Saith the Lord”* and stopped coming.

Finally, Luke 8:15 tells us, *“But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep [it], and bring forth fruit with patience.”* These are

the ones who endured to the end. These are the ones who accept and follow the voice of the Lord through His Word.

These are the ones who choose to go all the way and be part of the church and become active participants in taking the gospel to the people. Will you make that final commitment?

What Happens If We Commit the Unpardonable Sin?

Hebrews 10:26-27 says, *“For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.”* If we continue to sin willfully, our sins will not have been confessed which means they will not have been blotted out and we will be destroyed on the Day of Judgment when the sentence is handed out.

Hebrews 6:4-6 tells us, *“For [it is] impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame.”* When we sin, it is as if we are crucifying our Lord all over again. That is a heavy burden to carry on the conscience. One of two things will happen: the same sun that melts wax hardens clay. We will

either melt under the weight and surrender all, or we will harden and commit the unpardonable sin.

Who will be lost? Matthew 7:13-14 says, *“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”* God clearly tells us to choose the minority view and follow a *“Thus Saith the Lord”* because the many will be destroyed.

Who are the many? Matthew 7:22-23 again tells us, *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”* The many are good people who do not commit any known sin, so why are they lost? It is revealed in Matthew 7:21: *“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”* They omitted to follow the will of the Father. Are we sure they are lost due to the sin of omission? Luke 6:46-49 says, *“And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake*

it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.” As we see, all that these lessons reveal is backed up by a clear *“Thus Saith the Lord.”* Can the same be said of everything that you would want to follow which is contrary to these lessons? If not, then you would be building on the sand and the future will be destruction.

What does God invite us to do? Ezekiel 18:23 tells us, *“Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: [and] not that he should return from his ways, and live?”* Ezekiel 18:32 says, *“For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn [yourselves], and live ye.”* He invites us to turn from following our ways and follow the one Way, Jesus Christ.

What hope is there? Philippians 1:6 says, *“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform [it] until the day of Jesus Christ.”* God promises to finish the work He started in you. Ephesians 4:30 says, *“And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”* The condition to His promise is that we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us all the way.

Is There an Example of Committing the Unpardonable Sin?

Acts 7:51 tells us, “Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers [did], so [do] ye.”

Stephen is preaching hard and fast and gets to the point of the matter. One of the biggest reasons people commit the unpardonable sin is that they want to follow what their parents taught them.

Acts 7:53 says, “Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept [it].” Another reason people commit the unpardonable sin is because they do not want to adhere to God’s Law. They like cheating on their income tax. They like living in adultery. They like going along with the majority of the world in Sunday sacredness.

Remember Gideon? Who is at the top of God’s list of going to Hell? Revelation 21:8 says, “*But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*” The first group is the fearful. They are too scared to follow a “*Thus Saith the Lord.*” They are more worried about what friends, family, and people in general think about them. And the second group is that of the unbelieving. They cannot believe that any organization follows the Bible and the Bible alone and they make excuses as to why they can stay right where they are even though

many times they choose to fellowship where one or more teachings are blatantly against the Word of God.

God is qualifying His army, His Christian soldiers. Will you be fearful and be sent away? Will you be comfortable in your own sin or in relying upon yourself and not come fully out of Babylon into His body? God is testing to see if you are really committed to Him.

Consider it this way. If this country had to go to war, where are you most effective? Enlisted in the service with a uniform or having your own attack plan and refusing to join the army. God has an army. The enemy is the Devil. God has a uniform that He wants His people to wear. It is the title of His church. Where are you most effective in this spiritual battle? Working within the organization allowing your talents to be multiplied or battling by yourself?

What 3 Letter Word Makes God Cringe?

Luke 9:59-62 reveals, “*And he said unto another, Follow me. **But** he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God. And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; **but** let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*” The word is BUT. When we let just one item hold us back from making a total surrender and we put God off

even for a moment, God utters “*No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*” I have seen it so many times. People saying, “I’ll surrender all as soon as my spouse is ready.” “I’ll surrender all as soon as I take care of this or that.” That day just never comes, and the voice of the Holy Spirit gets quieter, and quieter, and quieter until they do not hear it anymore. Besides, if you were to help your spouse, friend, or other family member into a boat, where is the best advantage point? Treading in water and pushing from behind? No! Standing in the boat and pulling them in.

Matthew 19:16-17, 21-23 says, “*And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is], God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go [and] sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come [and] follow me. **But** when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.*” God pointed out an idol in this man’s life. What idol are you placing before God? What is keeping you from surrendering all?

Now to the contrast, we see others who immediately accepted the calling. Matthew

4:18-22 reveals, “*And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left [their] nets, and followed him. And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James [the son] of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.*” Notice that in these situations, it was an immediate decision. They did not tell Jesus to check back with them later.

Matthew 9:9 says, “*And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom:*

and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.” Again, an immediate reaction, and this one is tough. He left the money sitting open on the table.

But some people may say, “I need to study more.” Matthew 28:19-20 tells us, “*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen.*” That is the beauty of God’s commission. We are to teach the major points. Do you believe them? If so, God invites you to be baptized into those beliefs, and then continue learning the lesser details. This is brought out in Acts 2:41-42 as well: “*Then they that gladly*

received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added [unto them] about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Will You Follow Him?

John 10:27 states, “*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.*” Will you follow Him wherever He leads you? Will you do all that He asks including becoming part of His body?

May God bless you and lead you. May your heart melt in beholding the Saviour. May you surrender all and allow Jesus to be Lord of your life.