

The Unpardonable Sin-

As the news of miracles spread like a wildfire through the crowds of common people, the name of Jesus was on the lips of every man. Indeed He was a teacher come from God, for no man could do these miracles which [He did] except God were with Him. Would or could the Promised One do more than He? The excitement and anticipation was proportional to the need. Blind people, lame people, broken people suddenly felt hope, which had become a smoking flax, quicken and stir in the ashes of their lives. Driven by hunger to the Bread of Life they followed Jesus as best they could, but even they did not comprehend their greatest need as the salvation of their souls. As Jesus Himself would say “many are called, but few are chosen.”

As the popularity of Jesus rose the religious aristocracy felt threatened. At first they dismissed the itinerant preacher as an ignorant, uneducated, and uncredentialed “nobody”. Other populists had recently come and gone. They were soon exposed as fanatical impostors, not unlike recent popular preachers of our day who had predicted the Second Coming or the end of the world only to look foolish when everyone awoke the next day, still here. The popularity of Jesus continued to expand and showed no sign of abating.

The Pharisees began a whispering campaign. “He has a devil,” they said. “He is Beelzebub, the Lord of the Flies,” they first hinted, then spoke in hushed tones, and at last howled. At this point, Jesus, The Truth turned to face evil and looked it in the eye. He not only addressed the insolence of the Priests and Religious Rulers, He also gave warning to the spiritually ignorant masses and an entire generation.

To the enthusiasts, shallow hearted, and faddists he warned about a generation that would experience a brief reformation and emotional revival (at the preaching of John) only to be soon be repossessed with seven demons worse than the first. Fads and diets don't work long. The nation of Israel along with its prided temple would be in ruins within a generation. His harshest words were for the religious professionals and their unpardonable sin. He said speaking evil of Him as a man could be forgiven. Since one day a person may have more light, more understanding, and more faith, and a change of heart, such a sin was not hopeless. But, when one calls God's light darkness, that is damnable. Geikie wrote, “bigotry like the pupil of the eye, contracts in proportion to the outward brightness.” Bigotry meets more light with more darkness. At the center of every sin and at the core of every moral corruption there is a seed. Like a wolf in its lair or a dragon in its den the sin of pride like a queen bee is fed by thousands of lesser sins ever feeding it with the nectar of lies as it rests on a bed called presumption. Presumption is the crown of pride, and presumption is a delusion of lies. God gives grace to the humble. No one was more humble, selfless, and unpretentious than Jesus. He quietly took every slight, reproach and insult cast upon Himself, except one: ascribing God's light to be darkness. That sin against the Holy Spirit is a blindness that knows no cure. - id