

Providence Reformed Baptist Church – Sunday, November 13, 2022

Sermon Series: The Gospel of the Kingdom – Matthew

Message 73. The Unpardonable Sin – Matthew 12:22-32

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Introduction: As Jesus continued to demonstrate power over demons, disease, and death, the crowds began to think that maybe He was the Messiah after all! Could it be that He is the Son of David? The Pharisees' response was to continue to repeat their big lie – these miracles are coming from the power of the devil!

- I. The Son of David? – vs. 22-23
 - A. Demon Possessed and Diseased – Quote #1
 1. Blind
 2. Mute
 - B. Messianic Miracles – 2 Sam. 7:12-16; Isa. 9:6-7; Matt. 21:9
- II. With Me or Against Me – vs. 24-30
 - A. The Big Lie (vs. 24) – Matt. 9:34; Mark 3:22
 - B. A Ridiculous Deception (vs. 25-28)
 1. If Satan fights Satan, his kingdom cannot continue to exist
 2. If this isn't by the power of Satan, it must be by the power of God
 3. If it is the power of God, the Kingdom of God is here – it has come (present tense)
 4. If Jesus is the Son of David, the Messiah, then He is the coming King
 - C. How Do the Pharisees' Disciples Do It? (vs. 27)
 1. If Satan casts out Satan, how do you know your guys are doing it right?
 2. Sons of Sceva – Acts 19:13-16
 - D. A Strong Man and the Strongest Man (vs. 29)
 - E. There is No Neutrality about Jesus (vs. 30)
 1. If we are for Him, we obey Him – John 14:15
 2. If we do not obey Him, we are not for Him, but are for ourselves – 1 Tim. 6:3-5
- III. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit – vs. 31-32
 - A. Blasphemy – “slander, maligning speech, defamation”
 1. Is Forgivable – 1 Tim. 1:13-15
 2. Unless it is against the Holy Spirit – Quote #2
 - a. The Spirit testifies of Christ – Heb. 2:3-4; John 15:26; 16:13-14
 - b. To reject His testimony in determined unbelief leads only to judgment
 3. Calling good evil – Isaiah 5:20
 - a. To distort reality so as to attribute the work of the Spirit to Satan – Mark 3:30
 - b. A debased mind will not repent – Romans 1:18-20, 28, 32
 - c. Without repentance, forgiveness is impossible – Luke 24:46-47; Acts 5:31
 - B. Temporal and Eternal Judgment
 1. The Destruction of Jerusalem – Matt. 11:20-24; 24:1-2 – Quote #3
 2. The Lake of Fire – Rev. 21:8, 27
- IV. Remember Whose Disciple You Are – Matt. 10:24-28

Quotes

1. “He could not see his Saviour, nor cry to Him. When Satan is dethroned, the spiritual faculties begin to work at once. Men who neither see their sin, nor cry for mercy, His grace can save.” – CH Spurgeon
2. “This blasphemy is thoughtfully, willfully, and self-consciously rejecting the work of the Spirit.” – DA Carson
3. “During Jesus’ earthly ministry, the unbelieving Pharisees and all the others who blasphemed the Spirit cut themselves off from God’s mercy, not because it was offered, but because it was abundantly offered yet rebelliously and permanently rejected and ridiculed as satanic. Within 40 years, God would destroy Jerusalem, the Temple, the priesthood, the sacrifices, and the nation of Israel. In 70 A.D., the Romans razed Jerusalem, utterly destroyed the Temple, slaughtered over a million of its inhabitants, and all but obliterated nearly a thousand other towns and villages in Judea. His own chosen people had said no to Him, and He said no to them. Until He returns and regathers a remnant of His people to Himself in the last days, except for a few faithful, they are as a nation totally apart from God.” – John MacArthur

Cross References

2 Samuel 7:12-16

12 “When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.” ’ ’ ”

Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Matthew 21:9

9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ Hosanna in the highest!”

Matthew 9:34

34 But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons.”

Mark 3:22

22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebub,” and, “By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons.”

Acts 19:13-16

13 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.” 14 Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?” 16 Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

John 14:15

15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments.

1 Timothy 6:3-5

3 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, 4 he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, 5 useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.

1 Timothy 1:13-15

13 although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. 14 And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. 15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

Hebrews 2:3-4

3 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

John 15:26

26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

John 16:13-14

13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

Isaiah 5:20

20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Mark 3:28-30

28 “Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; 29 but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation”—30 because they said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

Romans 1:18-20, 28, 32

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Luke 24:46-47

46 Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Acts 5:31

31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

Matthew 11:20-24

20 Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent: 21 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. 23 And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. 24 But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.”

Matthew 24:1-2

24 Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

Revelation 21:8

8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Revelation 21:27

27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Matthew 10:24-28

24 “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household! 26 Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. 27 “Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. 28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.