

Sermon Notes



Text: Matthew 12:22-37

Theme: Jesus was accused of being in league with the Devil. What Christ was doing in casting out demons was from God, or it was from the Devil. These are really the only two choices. The words you speak reveal what your choice really is.

I. The Occasion in Which Jesus Was _____ as an _____ of the _____ (22-24)

II. Jesus' _____ (25-32)

A. An _____ Charge (25-26)

B. A _____ Charge (27)

C. The _____ of Jesus' Exorcisms (28-29)

D. The Summarizing Conclusion (30-32)

III. Jesus' Warning that _____ Are Just as _____ as Deeds (33-37)

V. Applications

A. Speaking against the Holy Spirit means _____ and _____ His work to the _____.

B. If you are truly _____ and _____ that you may have committed the _____ sin, then you have _____ committed it.

C. No one can _____ towards Christ.

Next Week Read: Matthew 9:35-38

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. Who was brought to Jesus and healed by Him? What was evidence of the person's healing (v. 22)?
2. What was the reaction of the crowds to this? What did this miracle cause the people to wonder about (v. 23)?
3. How did the Pharisees react to the crowd's response to Jesus (v. 24)?
4. What was the name for the "prince of demons" (v. 24)? What did this name mean?
5. What was the first problem Jesus pointed out regarding this accusation (vv. 25-26)?
6. What was an additional problem with this accusation (v. 27)?
7. What was unique about Jesus' exorcisms? What did this mean (vv. 28-29)?
8. What is the general conclusion to draw from this confrontation (v. 30)?
9. As for the Pharisees' accusation, what was extremely grave and serious about the nature of this offense (v. 31)?
10. What does it mean to "blaspheme" (v. 31)?
11. Can blasphemy be forgiven (v. 31a)?
12. Is there blasphemy that will not be forgiven (vv. 31b-32)?
13. How does the way Jesus answered His critics provide a pattern for us when faced with similar accusations?
14. How peculiar or specific a sin is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?
15. Can blasphemy against the Spirit be committed today? If so, how?
16. Why can people speak against Jesus and be forgiven, but not be forgiven if they speak against the Spirit?
17. What should a person conclude who worries if he or she has committed the "unforgivable" sin?
18. How would you answer someone who asked you whether or not he/she was beyond the scope of God's forgiveness?
19. What have been some misguided suggestions about what constitutes the unforgivable sin?
20. Why is it impossible for anyone to remain neutral when it comes to Christ Jesus?