

Intro:

READ WLC Q&A 150.

Main Point of Text: Jesus says that the worst sin is betrayal committed by a professed believer.

Sermon Point: *Don't betray Jesus in unbelief.*

Move 1: All your sins are horribly wicked before God.

LC: "All transgressions of the law of God are not equally heinous":

- No Catholic distinction of mortal/venial sins. All come from heart and corrupt (Mt. 5:18-20)
- James 2:10: *For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*
- WLC 77, justification: ... *sin is pardoned ... doth equally free all believers from the revenging wrath of God ...* Implies all sins/sinners are *equally* guilty. Rom. 6:23a. Rom. 3:23.

Move 2: Some of your sins are particularly putrid before God's most pure Spirit.

LC: "but **some sins ... are more heinous** in the sight of God than others":

- JJ Lim, Mt. 11:22, 24: degrees of punishment in hell, so some sins are more heinous, hellish
- Ezekiel 8:6, 13, 15: "seest thou what they do? *even the great abominations* that the house of Israel committeth here ... thou shalt see **greater** abominations" Depravity equal in extent; *worsens* by degrees.
- LC: "In sight of God". He sees all, He determines what is worse, He discerns it. **Psalm 11:4; Proverbs 16:2; 21:2;** 1 Jn. 5:16: ... *There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.*

Move 3: The worst sin imaginable is unbelief committed by "Christians".

LC: "some sins ... are more heinous ...":

- "in themselves", such as presumptuous (insolent/arrogant): Ps 19:13. Presumes upon grace.
- "and by reason of several aggravations": habitual, worsening, against correction and warnings. Especially when within the covenant community who should know better. Ps. 78:17, 32, 56
- 1 Cor. 10:9; Hebrews 3:12, 19; 4:6. Don't tempt Christ/die in unbelief. Rev. 21:8.
- John 19:11: Judas' sin was worse than Pilate's, because Judas was a trusted disciple who betrayed Jesus! Notice the theme of distrust and betrayal in Luke 22:3-6; 21-23; John 13:21-30; 18:2-5.

Conclusion:

Don't betray Jesus in unbelief.