

The Gospel of Mark
The Antagonism of Blasphemy
Mark 3:20-30

In our world, it seems that with more choices available, decision-making becomes more difficult. In our consumer-driven mindset, we want to wait as long as possible to make a decision because we want our decisions to depend on a particular mood at a particular time. Often we delay decisions because we want to make sure something better doesn't come along. So we stay neutral as long as possible.

1. Blasphemy denies the goodness of God.
2. Blasphemy displays a willful ignorance.
3. Blasphemy leads us into unpardonable sin.

There is a boundary of sin where, once passed, there is no possibility or hope of return. Mark has preserved this teaching of Jesus to try to keep us from ever going down that path. We need to understand this morning that a sinful path started does not have to be a sinful path finished. You don't have to see the condemnation of your sin on you, if you will just look to the cross of Christ and see the condemnation of your sin on Him.

For further consideration:

Have you ever spoken to someone who was worried that they had committed the unpardonable sin, a sin from which they could never be forgiven? Was there ever a time when you thought you had committed the unpardonable sin? When described, was it words or actions or thoughts? Do you think there are certain moral failures that would disqualify us from God's forgiveness? How does that view dilute the work of the cross and the grace of God? Can you think of examples today of people attacking Christianity using ridiculous logic? How would you counsel a Christian who was concerned they had committed the unpardonable sin? How would you caution a non-Christian concerning the nature of the unpardonable sin?