Semester 4 – Week 11 - Class 22 THE UNPARDONABLE SIN

Today's class is a most important one, "The Unpardonable sin."

As we have spent these many weeks together in this Bible prophecy school studying God's Word and going through the precious Scriptures, we have grown to appreciate our love for Jesus and our desire to know the truth in these last days.

The Lord has blessed and today as we study this message, our desire is that every person here might leave this school saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and fully consecrated to God; ready for Jesus' very, very soon coming.

Today's message is not so much for most of you, but it's for that person that is perhaps struggling with this decision, "What should I do about the great truths that I have learned?"

I know there's a longing in many hearts to go forward, but sometimes the things of this world, and sometimes friends and family and other things seem to hold us back. And it's my earnest prayer today that as we come together in the Scriptures that God's Spirit might do the work that man is not able to do and that is to bring conviction to the soul. Today's is a strong message, and it's my prayer as we leave here, the decision will be made by every heart, "I'm going to go all the way with Jesus Christ."

How does one know for sure whether they have committed the unpardonable sin or not? We need to know what the unpardonable sin is.

Question: Is it murder? Well we know that both Moses and David committed murder and Moses is in heaven.

Question: Is it denying Christ? Peter denied Christ but he was a changed man on the day of Pentecost.

Question: Is it suicide? Samson committed suicide, but he is in the Hebrew hall of fame. Hebrews 11:32.

Question: What is the unpardonable sin?

I'm not talking about the unpardonable sin today because I think somebody here has committed it. If you had committed the unpardonable sin you wouldn't even be here. But why I am talking about it is because I want to show you the steps that lead up to it. And if we never take the first step that leads up to the unpardonable sin, we never have to worry about committing the act of the unpardonable sin.

Matthew 12:30-32 "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad. Wherefore I say unto you, All <u>manner</u> of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men, And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come."

The word "manner" means "kind" or "type". The unpardonable sin is not the usual kinds or types of sin; rather it is a specific sin.

Although we may be great sinners, we do have a great Savior.

- 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to <u>cleanse us</u> from all unrighteousness."
- 1 John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

Matthew 12:32 "And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come." "Against the Holy Spirit" We can only understand the unpardonable sin if we understand how the Holy Spirit has worked through the Bible.

John 16:7 "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth; It is expedient, that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

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Ephesians 4:30 "And <u>grieve</u> not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." The word grieve – means to wound, to resist. Conscience is the voice of God. And when it is resisted the Spirit of God is grieved. God desires us to be sensitive to that which is wrong.

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John 16:8 "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"

When truth is presented, the unpardonable sin occurs when any individual repeatedly says no to God. The convicting power of the Holy Spirit becomes weaker, until it is no longer heard.

(Example of walking away from one talking to you and the sound of their voice growing weaker and weaker until you're hearing is out of the range of speaking.)

Example of building a brick wall between 2 people. If they are conversing, they can hear each other when the first brick is laid. But brick by brick the conversation is lessened. When the last brick is put in place, neither party can hear the other..

The unpardonable sin is not a *Kind of sin*, but the *Degree* which a person is *in sin*.

Many think that they can repent when they choose to. In other words procrastinate for a more convenient time. If you're one of those that think that, ... you can't be more wrong. We can only repent as the Holy Spirit tells us to. The Holy Spirit pleads, "Please, give me your heart; your affections; and leave this sin alone." Forgiveness is a gift, but repentance is also a gift.

Question: Is it possible to tell whether or not a person has been filled with the Holy Spirit?

Matthew 7:20 "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Galatians 5:22, 23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

To be filled with the Holy Spirit means: 1. To have a heart that deeply loves Jesus. 2. To have a mind filled with His words. 3. To have a determination to follow His truth.

Question: Does the Holy Spirit fill those who deliberately break God's Commanmdnets? This is a most important question and we need only a Bible answer. Here it is:

Acts 5:32 "And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." Using the Bible as our rule in faith and practice, the conclusion is that God does not give His Holy Spirit to those that knowingly break a single commandment. Disobedience is never so rewarded.

John 14:15-17 Jesus said and meant, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Then what would Jesus do if you are obedient to the Ten Commandments and any other commands of Jesus? Verses 16 & 17, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."

Question: What is the main reason God fills His people with His Spirit?

Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Acts 4:31 "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."

Question: "How can I receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

Luke 11:13 "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"

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The Holy Spirit of God convicts us of something that is not right: Tobacco, Alcohol, Evil temper, Argumentative, Debating spirit, Dishonesty, Sabbath breaking, etc.

We need to be sensitive to His voice when He asks us to change. You see, you can break the Sabbath, and break the Sabbath, and before long in your own mind you can justify breaking the Sabbath. "Well it doesn't make any difference, it's okay". It is possible to condition the mind and convince yourself that what's wrong is actually right, and what's right is wrong. And if the mind is conditioned to say no, when the Spirit convicts us inside – That's the pathway to the unpardonable sin.

Proverbs 16:25 "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Jeremiah 17:9, 10 "The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, [l] try the reins, ..."

Question: What is the primary work of the Holy Spirit?

* The Holy Spirit instructs us in the principles of God's Word.

John 14:26 "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

John 16:13 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come." The Holy Spirit leads us into truth. It is the same Holy Spirit that moved holy men to write the truth in the Scriptures, and it is He that wants to lead us into that same truth.

The honest person is willing to alter their ideas to fit the truth. The dishonest person wants to alter the truth to fit their ideas. "I know what I ought to do, but I'm not going to do it unless I <u>feel</u> convicted by the Spirit that I should." When God says something in His Word, the Holy Spirit has already spoken!

2 Timothy 3:7 "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

James 4:17 "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth [it] not, to him it is sin."

Example of a person out in the middle of the road may not feel convicted that he should move!. If he doesn't move, conviction will hit him TOO LATE.

What about FEELING convicted of truth? The Holy Spirit does not communicate with man through his emotions, therefore feelings are a poor barometer for understanding truth. The Holy Spirit communicates with us through our intellect. When God's Word says:

Revelation 22:14 "Blessed are they that do his commandments, ..." The Holy Spirit calls for action. When probation ends by death or the judgment concluding, then it is TOO LATE to change behavior.

John 16:8 "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and judgment." Truth is in the Word, not in the feelings.

Revelation 19:15 "And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations..."

John 3:19 "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

Now is the time if you haven't already, to say, "Yes" to God. I want to follow what I have learned.

People hesitate right here. Resistance grows, until the Holy Spirit cannot reach them anymore. The unpardonable sin is closing in.

It's not enough just to know the truth. The truth doesn't need our agreement.

If you're waiting for God's church to be popular—it will never happen. If you're waiting for all the popular speakers in America to follow Bible truth—you'll wait too long.

John 7:43-48 "So there was a division among the people because of him. And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him. Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him? The officers answered, Never man

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spake like this man. Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived? Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?" The religious leaders tried to get the people to take their stand in rejecting Christ. They asked the people if they were decieved. Yet it was the religious leaders of Christ's time that withheld the truth and rebelled against God. And so the religious leaders of our day are going to reject the Sabbath and point to their own example and say, don't be deceived, for we don't follow that old Jewish Sabbath.

Think about Noah's day. There were Scientists, respected religious leaders, political leaders, local governments, possibly with a Mayor, a Chief of Police and other law enforcement officials, pretty much like we might find in our day. 120 years of articulate preaching and solemn warning. Who was willing to yield to the Holy Spirit's leading in Noah's day? It was a flood message then. It's a Sabbath message today. And just like in Noah's day, almost the whole population rejected God's call of mercy. With God calling his true people back to Sabbath and out of the Sunday churches of Babylon, almost all of Christianity will reject the Holy Spirit's urging. Then when the plagues are poured out without God's grace and mercy, God will not hear the prayers or be moved by the screams of the rebels suffering in God's wrath. Too late, waited too long.

Noah went into the ark in the minority. The remnant came out the majority...

2 Thessalonians 2: 9-12 "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they receive not the <u>love of the truth</u>, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should <u>believe a lie</u>: That they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

Today the lie that has gone through Christendom is that the law was nailed to the cross so we don't have to keep the commandments. And so God's blessed and sanctified holy Sabbath commandment is trampled underfoot and made the busiest day of business commerce and entertainment.

While the truth is that Jesus died on the cross because of broken commandments and He set the example that men can have the victory over sin with power suplied from on high. Satan's arguments are embraced while God's commandments and truth is rejected.

Look what happened with Israel's first king who received a specific command from God in 1 Samuel 15...

- 1 Samuel 15:3 "Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass."
- 1 Samuel 15:13 "And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed [be] thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD."
- 1 Samuel 15:22 "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."

The command was for Saul to slay everything of the Amalekites. When he addressed the prophet Samuel he lied and said he did as commanded except of course the best of the livestock he brought back for the purpose of sacrifice. Disgusted with King Saul he told him **to obey is better than sacrifice.**

OBEDIENCE IS THE HIGHEST FORM OF WORSHIP.

<u>EXCUSES</u>: "Well, that's the way we've always done it! My father and grandfather have always done it this way, and so it goes." What that person is really saying is "God, I've already made up my mind on things, so whatever You have to show me doesn't matter." I'm not changing even if I am wrong."

* Sometimes when the Holy Spirit points out a certain truth to a person, that individual will protest, "I've been a good Christian for many years, and I've never felt that this particular thing is important. Why should I start doing it now?" He rejects the light sent to Him by the Holy Spirit, and in effect.he is saying, "I will take over the function of the Spirit and choose truth for myself."

If in the past a person has tried to serve God faithfully, God honors his/her diligence by sending he/she more light through the Holy Spirit. But, if a person rejects God's truth and refuses to permit the Holy Spirit to guide that person into all truth, the light, for he/she, cannot shine "more and more." Their light will inevitably become darkness and their faith becomes vain worship.

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Most Christians profess that they know Jesus. John calls most of them liars. Listen to his strong language in 1 John 2:3, 4 "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

Ecclesiastes 8:11 "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." Some people who have been convicted by these truths, and then rejected them, became hardened in their hearts towards the truth, believing they were deceived. They believe that God still accepts their worship in their easy religion Sunday church; but God says in:

Proverbs 28:9 "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer [shall be] abomination." God is saying I showed you the truth about My law and My holy day and you choose the Sabbath of the beast. I will hear no more of your detestable prayers.

Acts 5:29 "Then Peter and the [other] apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men." It is LOVE that leads to obedience. Jesus always leads to obedience.

Proverbs 4:18 "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

Some say, "My church follows something different." Well we must determine what will be our ultimate authority—our church or the God of heaven!

People continue to make their pastor, priest or their rabbi, their saviour. Whatever they say, that's what goes! (cult mentality). The religious leader trumps truth in Christ.

Some people will insist that the whole world can't be wrong. Were they right in Noah's day; in Christ's day, in Paul's day? The Bible clearly states that the whole world will be going in the wrong direction before Jesus' comes again. God lets you choose, the broad road that leads to destruction which almost all of Christendom is on, or the narrow way which involves a cross, but is the safe road to New Jerusalem.

Some will say, "I can't follow the Bible all the way. Why family, friends and church members would laugh at me." Well what did Jesus say?

Matthew. 10:32 "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven."

Matthew. 5:11, 12 "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

I cannot depend on feelings. I cannot depend on traditions. I cannot depend on my own human judgment because all of that can be easily deceived. The only safety is to come with a pure, honest heart to God and say, "God, whatever You want me to do, show me in your Word— I'm going to do it. Lord, as Your Spirit guides, convicts, instructs, I will do wherever Your Spirit leads me to do, even if it's different than what I've learned in the past. What else can an honest Christian do?

We all know the sins of David with Bathsheba, adultery and murder of her husband. David tried to justify in his own mind but surely he was a tortured man. Then came the prophet Nathan with a story. David judged the man in the story harshly, only to find out the guilty man in the story was David. Repentance and confession came as David wrote Psalm 51:10, 11 "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me."

Psalm 19:13 "Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous [sins]; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression."

Question: What is the one sin that cannot be forgiven?

Matthew 12:32 "... but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him,"

Question: What is the sin against the Holy Spirit?

<u>Answer</u>: The sin against the Holy Spirit is our deliberate and final refusal to permit Him to do for us what Jesus sent Him to do.

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John 16:13 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come."

2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; ..." Our records will come up in the judgment. No second chances. We are talking about eternal life based on our choices. Are your choices in harmony with God's Word?

Acts 17:10-12 "And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming [thither] went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few."

Acts 2:41 "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."

Acts 2:47 "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

1 Corinthians 12:13 "For by one Spirit are all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

God has but one church that He identifies as His remnant church. Lets review it carefully because the only safe place in the stormy days ahead will be in God's Remnant Church:

- 1. The remnant arises after 1798.
- 2. It preaches the everlasting gospel.
- 3. It preaches loyalty to all of God's commandments.
- 4. It keeps the 7th Day Sabbath.
- 5. The hour of God's judgment is come.
- 6. Gives glory to God through health message.
- 7. Warns the world of the Mark of the Beast.
- 8. Have the gift of Prophecy.
- 9. Teaches the truth about death being a sleep until the resurrection.
- 10. Teaches the truth of Jesus' 2nd coming.
- 11. Calls people to come out of Babylon.
- 12. A worldwide church with a worldwide message.

God wants you in His church of the last days and time is running out.

His last messages to the world are Serious Messages of warning, calling for action:

Revelation 14:6, 7 "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

It's a message that calls us to make a decision.

Revelation 2:7 "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

John 10:27 "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:"

2 Corinthians 6:2 "... behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

Romans 8:14 "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

In Gethsemane Jesus was tempted to go back, pleading Father let this cup pass. He could have left man without hope and without a Savior. But He went with the will of the Father. God's will is that we would be saved. That is not God's decision, we choose eternal life, or eternal loss.

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Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee: yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Jesus will give us the strength if we choose for Him, and He will continue to point the way into the New Jerusalem.

If you are not already a member of God's remnant church, won't you accept the Savior's invitation?

End Semester 4 – Week 11 - Class 22

The Next Class Semester 4 - Week 12 - Class 23 "Secret to Overcome Sin"

The Last Class Semester 4 – Week 12 - Class 24 "Heaven – Is it For Real?"