

If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. I

Jn 5:16

Some have said that verse speaks of a sin for which there has been no repentance.

Jesus prayed for forgiveness for a sin for which the men had not repented –

Lk 23:33 And when they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. 34 But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

Stephen prayed for forgiveness for a sin for which the men had not repented.

Acts 7: 60 And falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" And having said this, he fell asleep

What is this sin which leads to death and can we commit it by chance today?

I believe it to be “blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.”

Let’s study the Scriptures!

Lev 24:11 The son of the Israelite woman blasphemed the Name and cursed. So they brought him to Moses. (Now his mother's name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan.) ... 16 -'Moreover, the one who blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death; all the congregation shall certainly stone him. The alien as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death.

David by his sinful action gave others the opportunity to “speak against” the Lord.

2Sa 12:14 "However, because by this deed you have given occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born to you shall surely die."

The children of Israel blasphemed when they did not worship as the Lord said.

Eze 20:27 ... 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Yet in this your fathers have blasphemed Me by acting treacherously against Me. 28 "When I had brought them into the land which I swore to give to them, then they saw every high hill and every leafy tree, and they offered there their sacrifices and there they presented the provocation of their offering. There also they made their soothing aroma and there they poured out their drink offerings.

The Jews said that Jesus blasphemed when he called himself the Son of God.

Mk 14:62 And Jesus said, "I am; and you shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven."

63 And tearing his clothes, the high priest ^said, "What further need do we have of witnesses?

64 "You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?" And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death.

Again, the Jews said that Jesus blasphemed when he called himself the Son of God.

In 10:30 "I and the Father are one." 31 The Jews took up stones again to stone Him. 32 Jesus answered them, "I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?" 33 The Jews answered Him, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy ; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God."

Claiming to follow God and failing to do so is also blasphemy.

Rev 2:9 'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

Paul blasphemed and tried to get others to do the same.

1Ti 1:13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;

Act 26:11 "And as I punished them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to blaspheme; and being furiously enraged at them, I kept pursuing them even to foreign cities.

Although the sin of blasphemy brought the death penalty under the Law of Moses, it can be forgiven in the New Covenant.

1Ti 1:13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;

(14) and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, with the faith and love which are found in Christ Jesus. (15) It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. (16) Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.

But Jesus does speak of a sin which
can never be forgiven!

Mt 12:22 Then there was brought to Him a demon-possessed man who was blind and dumb, and He healed him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw. 23 And all the multitudes were amazed, and began to say, "This man cannot be the Son of David, can he?" 24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons." 25 And knowing their thoughts He said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and any city or house divided against itself shall not stand.

26 "And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then shall his kingdom stand? 27 "And if I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? Consequently they shall be your judges. 28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 "Or how can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.

30 "He who is not with Me is against Me;
and he who does not gather with Me
scatters. 31 "Therefore I say to you, any
sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven men,
but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not
be forgiven. 32 "And whoever shall speak
a word against the Son of Man, it shall be
forgiven him; but whoever shall speak
against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be
forgiven him, either in this age, or in the
age to come.

At v. 24 Matthew tells us what Jesus is talking about. – But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons."

At v. 26 Jesus shows them they must be wrong – "And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then shall his kingdom stand?"

What had they done? They had spoken against – reviled – the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit! Such a refusal to not only disbelieve the miracle but then to say that it was done by the power of Satan had eternal consequences! – but whoever shall speak against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age, or in the age to come

Mark's gospel confirms this

Mk 3:29 But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin." 30 He said this because they were saying, "He has an evil spirit."

We have not witnessed a true miracle today because they have ceased. Thus, we cannot commit this “sin against the Holy Spirit.”

1Co 13:8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. (9) For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; (10) but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. (11)

When I was a child, I used to speak as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. (12) For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I shall know fully just as I also have been fully known.

Not “he who is perfect” but “the perfect”

Not Jesus, but the word given by the Holy Spirit.

Jas 1:25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.

2Ti 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. (16) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (17) That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

However we often provide ammunition for those who would speak against the name of the Lord. Often, Christians use the name of the Lord in an unholy or frivolous way. Sometimes we do not worship as we should. There is no surer way to lose our salvation than by being unfaithful.

1Ti 1:19 keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith. (20) Among these are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan, so that they will be taught not to blaspheme.

Heb 10:29 How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? (30) For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY." And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE." (31) It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

If you believe that Jesus is the Christ, why not do as he asks now?

Mar 16:16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.