

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

JROC - What's with the Kingdom? Pt. 3

The "Unpardonable Sin" - ??

March 18, 2018

Have you ever wondered why Jesus said...

Matt. 23:37-39 - *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, (TO WHOM DO YOU THINK JESUS IS SPEAKING?) the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!*³⁸ *See! Your house is left to you desolate;*³⁹ *for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' "*

Hosea 5:15 – The Messiah is speaking to Israel and Judah - *I will return again to My place* (the Messiah is God; His place is heaven)

Till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face;

In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me. And we read in Hosea 6 of Israel seeking the LORD!

Last week we read part of Matthew 12. What I suggested re: the "unpardonable sin" was that it addressed "corporate" Israel – Israel as a nation and their rejection of the Messiah. Last week we began discussing whether "blasphemy against the Holy Spirit" is specifically re: Israel – as a nation. Or does it speak to every individual who rejects Jesus?

Question: can we say of any lost person – "Your sin is unpardonable"? We can't say that at a given moment because we don't know if that person will come to Jesus – on their death bed!

Matt. 12:31-32 - Jesus told the leadership - *...every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.*³² *Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.*

In Matthew 12 Jesus exorcised a demon from an individual who couldn't speak. The Rabbis taught (from the Oral Law) that only the Messiah, when He comes, could exorcise a demon from a mute person. From the "My Jewish Learning" site we're told that re: the exorcising of demons from an individual...

Most techniques include interviewing the demon taking a personal history in order to understand what is motivating the spirit and so better effect the removal (Shalsholet Ira-Kabbalah). It was thought that many possessing spirits were quite forthcoming and loquacious. The goal of the interview is to eventually learn the name of the evil spirit. The exorcist then uses the power of the demonic spirit's own name to "overpower" it, by round after round of scripted ritual actions involving threats and rebukes, getting more intense and invasive with each effort. A few ceremonies on record reached the point of actually "beating" the demon out, but most simply involved verbal coercion.

When Jesus performed this miracle, we read in

Matt. 12:23 - *And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"* They were asking, "Is this the Messiah?" They seemed to recognize Jesus as the Messiah.

The Pharisees made their decision...

Matt. 12:24 - *Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, 'This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.'*

Matt. 12:31-32 - *Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.³² Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come. (John 11:48 – after Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead - If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation. "*

Acts 4:16 – Re: Peter and John's preaching - *What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.)*

How could I suggest that what we call the "unpardonable sin" (the label we've given the sin that cannot be forgiven) is a national sin – specifically focused on Israel?

The context is the rejection of the Messiah by the Jewish religious leadership.

Jesus begins to speak of "this generation" in terms of judgment. He called them "brood of vipers" and then said

Matt. 12:37 - *by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.*

The leaders began to retreat a bit, after this pronouncement of judgment and asked for a sign.

Matt. 12:38-40 - *Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."*

³⁹ *But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

In response to this sign that was given them, they sought further to kill Him. And thus – the hastening of the sign of three days and three night in the grave and then RESURRECTION!

SO? Jesus' resurrection PROVED His Messiahship! (Psa. 16:10; Isa. 53:10 - *Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days,;* Psa. 22; Psa. 23; Psa. 24)

Luke 19:41-44 - *Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, ⁴² saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For days will come upon you when*

your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side,⁴⁴ and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.

From this passage we are told that there would be a judgment because they were not aware of something that had been told them – in Scripture. Daniel 9:26 speaks of when the Messiah would come and die – before the destruction of the Temple!!

And, what judgment is Jesus speaking of in the Luke 19 passage? The destruction of the Temple in 70 AD.

And yet...

Hosea 3:4-5 - *For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim.⁵ Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.*

Jer. 3:11-18

Dt. 30:1-6

Isa. 14:1ff

What are the verses re: God restoring Israel based on?

The Abrahamic Covenant.

AND, we need to know that, regarding Jesus' death on the cross...

ISA. 53:10 – *It pleased the Father to bruise the Son....*

ACTS 4:27 - *For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together*