

**CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP  
SERIES: THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**SINS AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**INTRODUCTION:**

**A. ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

“The HOLY SPIRIT helps us to discern. He’s like a burglar alarm at home. When it goes off, you know somebody has come in your house uninvited. When the smoke detector goes off, you know something is awry. When a metal detector at an airport goes off, it makes a beeping sound that gives an alert to check things. These alarms help us to know that something is not quite right. In the same way, the Holy Spirit alarms the soul” - Dr. Tony Evans

- “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his” (Rom 8:9).
- “<sup>4</sup> Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. <sup>5</sup> And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. <sup>6</sup> Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him” (1 John 3:4-6).

**B. “The Holy Spirit guides the Believer in the way of wisdom. To refuse to live wisely is to ignore the leading of the Holy Spirit.” – Charles Stanley**

**C. “The Spirit of God is the Holy Spirit and His work is to make [us] free from the power of sin and death.” – Andrew Murray**

**PROPOSITION:**

**For this Bible Study, we will discuss Sins Against the Holy Spirit – The difference between Grieving, Quenching, Lying To, and Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit.**

**I. GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT (Eph 4:30)**

**“And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption” (Eph 4:30).**

- “Grieve” means to cause sorrow, emotional pain or grief.

**A. The Holy Spirit is a Person. He is a Person who is grieved when Believers engage in sinful behavior such as bitterness, slander, malice, harsh words, anger, dirty thoughts or unforgiveness.**

**B. In Ephesian 4:29, 31-32, Believers are told to “put away” (to remove, to carry away, to get rid of) all these sins that grieve the Holy Spirit.**

1. Grieving the Holy Spirit breaks fellowship with Him – He cannot work in a Believer’s life.
2. Grieving the Holy Spirit hinders our joy, peace, and spiritual growth. However, it does not mean a loss of Salvation.

**C. Grieving the Holy Spirit can be resolved through confession and repentance**

- “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

**D. Grieving the Spirit (Eph 4:30)**

“You cannot grieve a force. You cannot grieve a wind. You cannot grieve an influence. You can grieve a person. The Holy Spirit is not a chemical or cosmic force; He is a person who loves you with an infinite love. When we harbor bitterness, when we let unholy words cross our lips, we grieve the heart of the One who sealed us for eternity.” – Adrian Rogers

**POINTS TO PONDER:**

**1. Watch What You Say!** – Speak only that which is helpful – “That which is good to the use of edifying (Eph 4:29).

- **Before you speak – T-H-I-N-K.** Ask yourself if your words are:  
**T- True? – H – Helpful? – I – Inspiring? – N – Necessary? – K – Kind?**

**2. Always treat others in a Christlike manner**

Be kind, tenderhearted (compassionate) and forgiving (Eph 4:32).

**STUDY QUESTION:**

**How can you encourage yourself and others to avoid grieving the Holy Spirit and to live in unity and holiness?**

**II. QUENCHING THE HOLY SPIRIT (1 Thess 5:19)**

**“Quench not the Spirit” (1 Thess 5:19).**

- **“Quench”** means to extinguish, stifle, smother, or put out a fire.

**A. The Believer Extinguishes the Holy Spirit’s Divine Fire**

This “Divine Fire” is His presence, purification and empowerment. The Believer extinguishes that Divine Fire by resisting the Holy Spirit’s prompting, guidance and spiritual gifts.

- 1.** The Believer should always fulfill his God-Given assignment to avoid quenching the Holy Spirit.
- 2.** The Believer should always allow the Holy Spirit to lead and guide his life. Do not take matters into your own hands which will result in the loss of spiritual power, zeal and ministry impact.

**B. The Holy Spirit is Quenched when we step out the will of God.**

Always trust in God and follow His lead.

- **“Obey God and leave all the consequences to Him.”** – Charles Stanley

C. **Quenching the Spirit** (1 Thess 5:19)

“The Holy Spirit is fire. He warms the cold heart, melts the hard heart, and refines the pure heart. When God puts a holy impulse in your heart to pray, to witness, or to give, and you say ‘no, ‘you throw cold water on the altar. Do that enough times, and the fire goes out, leaving you with nothing but cold, mechanical, lifeless religion.” – Adrian Rogers

III. **LYING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT** (Acts 5:1-11)

**“<sup>3</sup> But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? <sup>4</sup> Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God Acts 5:3-4).**

- **“Lying”** means to speak falsely, to deceive, spiritual hypocrisy, pretending to be more dedicated or generous than a person actually is.

- **Lying is a violation of God’s Ninth Commandment:**

“Thou shalt not bear false witness” (Exod 20:16).

A. **Acts 5:3-4 shows the danger of hypocrisy and deceit as committed by Ananias and his wife Sapphira.**

1. There is nothing wrong with the fact that they kept part of the money obtained from the sale of a possession (land) – (vv. 1-3).
2. They had the right to do with the money as they desired to. They were under no external pressure to give all their money.
3. The problem or the sin is that they said they were giving all when actually they kept back part of the money for themselves (v. 3).
4. Ananias and Sapphira “lied to the Holy Ghost” (v. 3) and “unto God” (v. 4).
5. As a result of their deceptive actions (lying), they faced swift judgment – **Immediate Death** (vv. 5, 10)

B. **Believers should be truthful in all their dealings with God and man.**

There is not a right way to do wrong (sin).

C. **Lying To the Spirit**

“Ananias and Sapphira didn’t go to hell because they didn’t give all their money. They went to a premature grave because they lied about it. They wanted the reputation of spirituality without the reality of sacrifice. God will forgive your weakness, and He will forgive your failures, but He reserves His harshest judgment for religious hypocrisy.” – Adrian Rogers

**D. Only What You Do For Christ** (Mahalia Jackson)

You may seek earthly power and fame  
And the world may be impressed by your great name  
Soon the glory of this life will all be past  
And only what you do for Christ will only last  
Remember what you do for Christ will only last  
Oh, remember only what you do for Christ will last  
Only what you do for Him will be counted at the end  
Only what you do for Christ will only last

**POINTS TO PONDER:**

**1. Do not follow a crowd to do evil.**

- “Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment” (Exod 23:2).

**2. We do not have any secret sins with God.**

- “Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance” (Ps 90:8).

God knows all our sins as if they were spread out before Him, even our secret sins. There is nothing that God does not know about us – each and every person at all times.

**STUDY QUESTIONS:**

**1. How does the account of Ananias and Sapphira challenge our understanding of honest and integrity in our own lives?**

**2. What steps can we take to ensure that we are being good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us?**

**IV. BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT** (Matt 12:31-32; Mark 3:28-30)

**“<sup>31</sup> Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. <sup>32</sup> 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”** (Matt 12:31-32).

- **“Blasphemy”** means the final, willful rejection of the Spirit’s testimony of Jesus Christ. It is maliciously attributing God’s saving power to Satan. Speaking against God.

**A. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is defined as the deliberate, determined, and continuous rejection of God’s truth and the Spirit’s work.**

It is specifically described as attributing the undeniable miracles and saving power of the Holy Spirit to the work of Satan (as the Pharisees did to Jesus in the Gospels). – KJV Dictionary

**B. Blasphemy is the Unpardonable Sin**

Why is it unforgivable? – This sin is considered “eternal” and unpardonable not because God’s grace is limited, but because it represents an irreversible, hardened state of the heart. A person who commits this sin willfully refuses to acknowledge the Holy Spirit’s conviction, thereby making genuine repentance – which is required for forgiveness – impossible. – KJV Dictionary

**C. In the Bible passage for the main point, Jesus warned about blasphemy against the Holy Spirit after the Pharisees saw Him healing and casting out demons, but claimed He was doing it by a demonic spirit.**

**D. Jesus stated that Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is the eternal, unforgiveable sin and the person (Unbeliever) will face eternal damnation.**

**E. The unbeliever reflects a person with a hardened heart and persistent, willful rejection of God’s gift of Grace. They refuse to repent of their sins.**

**F. The Nature of the Unpardonable Sin**

“What is the unpardonable sin? It is not a single act of passion. It is the consequence of continuous, willful, intentional resistance to the light of God until the heart becomes totally solidified in unbelief. It is calling the Holy Spirit a devil and attributing the work of God to Satan, deliberately shutting the only door to forgiveness.” – Adrian Rogers

**POINT TO PONDER:**

**Unbelievers who commit Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will be cast into the lake of fire, which is the second death.**

- “<sup>14</sup> And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. <sup>15</sup> And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire (Rev 20:14-15).
- “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (Rev 21:8).

**STUDY QUESTION:**

**How does understanding God’s willingness to forgive all other sins impact your view of His Grace and Mercy?**

**CONCLUSION:**

- A. “Our Blessed Savior Christ Himself preaches that the Holy Spirit is Everlasting and Almighty God.” – Martin Luther**
- B. “I have learned to be obedient to the Holy Spirit. I cannot use the Holy Spirit; He only uses me.” – Kathryn Kuhlman**

**C. Breath One Me, Breath of God**

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure;  
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.  
Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill my heart's desire;  
Until this earthly part of me, Glows with Your Heav'nly fire.

**D. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.**

- “If you are afraid that you have committed the unpardonable sin, I have good news for you: you haven't. The very fact that your are concerned, the very fact that your conscience is troubled, proves that the Holy Spirit is still convicting you. A man who has committed the unpardonable sin has a seared conscience; he doesn't care, and he doesn't worry.” – Adrian Rogers

**E. ABC's of Salvation**

- **A – Admit** that you're a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
- **B – Believe** that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- **C – Confess**/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)



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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).