



The Bible Speaks

THE SIN GOD CANNOT FORGIVE

As God brought the people of Israel out of bondage in Egypt, He became their King and Leader. As the people multiplied and were established in the land of Palestine, they wanted to be like the nations around them. They asked God to give them a human king.

God granted their request and allowed Saul to become their first king. Saul was a very religious young man and prophesied after becoming king. For a short period of time he was a good king, but pride and stubbornness caused him to ignore God's instructions and follow his own wilful way. When God told him to utterly destroy the Amalekites and all that they possessed, he only partially obeyed.

Samuel came out to meet the victorious Saul and his army. When asked why he had failed to do all that God had commanded, Saul blamed the people for his own rebellion. By little acts of disobedience Saul had been laying the foundation for this final act of rebellion against God. Not only did God reject Saul from being king over Israel, but the Bible tells us that God withdrew His Spirit from Saul and he became a lost man, beyond the help and forgiveness of God - lost eternally! Notice what the Bible says about him in 1 Samuel 16:14 (OT 258), "But the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul." Without the help of the Holy Spirit, there was no hope for Saul.

The Bible speaks about the danger of sinning so long that forgiveness is no longer desired. Some have called this act the "Unpardonable Sin." Let us find what the Bible has to say about this sin.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. How many of our confessed sins will God forgive and blot out? **1 John 1:7,9**

The Bible Answer: _____

2. Upon what conditions will God have mercy on the sinner? **Proverbs 28:13**

The Bible Answer:

1. _____

2. _____

3. What does John call the sin that will not be forgiven? **1 John 5:16**

The Bible Answer: _____

4. What did David call this sin that God cannot forgive? **Psalms 19:13**

The Bible Answer: _____

5. Against whom is this sin committed? **Matthew 12:31, 32**

The Bible Answer: _____

6. What did Paul say a person does who sins against the Holy Spirit?
Ephesians 4:30

The Bible Answer: _____

7. What does the Holy Spirit do to help the sinner find Christ? **John 14:26**

The Bible Answer: _____

8. What is the work of the Holy Spirit in pointing out truth to the sinner?
John 16:13

The Bible Answer: _____

9. What three things will the Holy Ghost bring to the attention of mankind?
John 16:8-11

The Bible Answer:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Note: Jesus taught that the work of the Holy Spirit is to bring the sinner a conviction of sin that he might feel his need of salvation. When the sinner feels his need the Holy Spirit points him to Christ for forgiveness. Without the Holy Spirit's work of bringing conviction, the sinner will never ask for forgiveness.

10. How did Stephen describe the refusal on the part of the Jewish leaders to let the Holy Spirit bring conviction to them? **Acts 7:51**

The Bible Answer: _____

11. What did David believe would happen to him if he continued to sin?
Psalms 51:11

The Bible Answer: _____

12. What does Paul say about the sin that finally drives the Holy Spirit from the sinner and seals his destruction? **Hebrews 10:26-29**

The Bible Answer: "For if we _____
there remaineth _____"

13. What does Paul say that we are doing when we resist the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts? **Hebrews 3:7, 8**

The Bible Answer: _____

14. How many of the commandments of God must we break to be a sinner?
James 2:10-12

The Bible Answer: _____

15. When, as indicated in the Bible, should a person respond to the gift of salvation?
2 Corinthians 6:2

The Bible Answer: _____

The Holy Spirit will bring conviction and lead to the conversion of every person who truly desires to be saved, but He will not force a person to become a Christian. The still small voice of the Spirit will woo the sinner to Christ. Without the working of this power the sinner will have no desire to come and confess his sins and receive cleansing. The Holy Spirit will be withdrawn from the sinner when he stubbornly turns a deaf ear to this voice which would guide him into all truth. By a continual refusal to respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit, the sinner will harden his heart and be past feeling. David was afraid that the Holy Spirit had been taken from him when he committed a terrible sin.

When the voice of God speaks to us through His Word or Spirit, let us not reject His leading. Let us respond by eagerly following Him.

(If you wish to respond to the following questions, place a cross in the boxes.)

I desire to be fully led by the Spirit of God

I am determined by the grace of God to surrender to Him today

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____