

What does it mean to commit Blasphemy?

Luke 12:10

To blaspheme is to speak with contempt about God or to be defiantly irreverent. Blasphemy is verbal or written reproach of God's name, character, work, or attributes. Therefore, it does not mean there are necessarily different types of blasphemy, just blasphemy can be expressed in different ways.

Followers of God are also responsible to make sure their behavior doesn't incite others to blaspheme God.

Therefore, blasphemy against the Holy Spirit has to do with accusing Jesus Christ of being demon-possessed instead of Spirit-filled. This particular type of blasphemy cannot be duplicated today. The Pharisees were in a unique moment in history: they had the Law and the Prophets, they had the Holy Spirit stirring their hearts, they had the Son of God Himself standing right in front of them, and they saw with their own eyes the miracles He did. Never before in the history of the world (and never since) had so much divine light been granted to men; if anyone should have recognized Jesus for who He was, it was the Pharisees. Yet they chose defiance. They purposely attributed the work of the Spirit to the devil, even though they knew the truth and had the proof. Jesus declared their willful blindness to be unpardonable. Their blasphemy against the Holy Spirit was their final rejection of God's grace.

The fact is, every time we do or say something that gives others a false representation of the glory, holiness,

authority, and character of God, we commit blasphemy. Every time we misrepresent our position as children of God, we are damaging His reputation. Fortunately, Jesus forgives even the sin of blasphemy. Peter attacked Jesus' purpose (Matthew 16:22), Paul tried to make others blaspheme (Acts 26:9-18), and Jesus' own brothers thought He was insane (Mark 3:21). All repented, and all were forgiven.

Denying the existence of the Holy Spirit is not the unpardonable sin. Saying certain words that are insulting towards the Holy Spirit is not THE blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. Biblically speaking, THE blasphemy of the Holy Spirit was witnessing Jesus perform a miracle and attributing that power to Satan instead of the Holy Spirit. This specific blasphemy of the Holy Spirit, the unpardonable sin, cannot be committed today. A believer cannot commit the unforgivable sin. How can someone who has been born again (John 3:7), made a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17), and received eternal life (John 10:27-28) actually commit the unforgivable sin? He cannot. Jesus Himself said that we have eternal life, not conditional life: "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand" (John 10:27-28). Besides, it says in 2 Cor. 5:17 that the Christian is a new creation in Christ. We are different, no longer slaves to the old nature (Rom. 6:14). We are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

There is no biblical support for a believer committing this sin. It just hasn't happened. Also, if you are worried that you may have committed the sin and can't be forgiven, then don't be concerned. If you are

worrying about it, then you haven't committed it. If you are worried about it, that is a sign you have not committed it. If you had, you wouldn't be concerned.

The only unpardonable sin today is dying in hard-hearted rejection of the salvation that is available through Jesus Christ. God can and will forgive any sin, but His offer of forgiveness is only available in this life.

What does Blasphemy mean in the Bible?

Blasphemy is a term that appears in both the Old and New Testament. According to **Smith's Bible Dictionary**, blasphemy in its technical English use signifies the speaking evil of God and in this sense is found in **Psalms 74:18, Isaiah 52:5, Romans 2:24**, etc. But according to its derivation, it may mean any sort of slander and abuse: reference **1 Kings 21:10, Acts 18:6, Jude 1:9**, etc. Blasphemy was punished by stoning, which was inflicted on the son of Shelomith (**Leviticus 24:11**). On this charge both our Lord and St. Stephen were condemned to death by the Jews. The blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, (**Matthew 12:32; Mark 3:28**) consisted in attributing to the power of Satan those unquestionable miracles which Jesus performed by "the finger of God" and the power of the Holy Spirit. It is plainly such a state of willful, determined opposition to God and the Holy Spirit that no efforts will avail to lead to repentance. Among the Jews, it was a sin against God answering to treason in our times.

Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit

The sin of "Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit" is referenced in **Mark 3:22-30** and **Matthew 12:22-32** just after Jesus had performed a miracle of casting a demon

out of a man, healing the possessed man of blindness and muteness. The witnesses of this exorcism began to question if Jesus was in fact the Messiah they had been waiting for. A group of Pharisees, hearing the discussion of the Messiah, quickly attempted to quell any developing faith in Christ saying: “It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons” (**Matthew 12:24**).

Examples of Blasphemy

- **Idolatry:** Idolatry is an action of blasphemy because it wrongly attributes worship and faith to an entity that is not truly God. When we find comfort in things other than God, we are guilty of blasphemy. We have failed to rightly praise God with our faith and reverence.
- **Arrogance:** Apostle Paul states in **Galatians 6:3** that when someone “thinks that they are something when they are actually nothing, they deceive themselves.” Such is the case when we live as though we do not need God in our lives and blaspheme the sovereignty of God.
- **False Teachings:** False teaching and/or false depictions of God are also blasphemous because they obscure the true nature of God. Whereas with idolatry, we tend to worship and hope in a false reality, with false teachings or false depictions about God, we are attempting to change the character of God to conform to our preferences more closely.

Bible Verses about Blasphemy

Psalm 74:18 (NET1) ¹⁸ Remember how the enemy hurls insults, O LORD, and how a foolish nation blasphemes your name!

Luke 12:10 (NET) ¹⁰ And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven; but the person who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.

Mark 3:22-30 (NET) ²² The experts in the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul," and, "By the ruler of demons he casts out demons."
²³ So he called them and spoke to them in parables: "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom will not be able to stand. ²⁵ If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶ And if Satan rises against himself and is divided, he is not able to stand, and his end has come. ²⁷ But no one is able to enter the house of the strong man and remove his goods unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he can thoroughly clean out his house. ²⁸ I tell you the truth, all the sins and blasphemies people may speak will be forgiven them. ²⁹ But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. They are liable for an eternal sin ³⁰ (because they said, 'He has an unclean spirit')."

1 Corinthians 6:6-10 (NET) ⁶ Instead, does a Christian sue a Christian, and do this before unbelievers? ⁷ The fact that you have lawsuits among yourselves demonstrates that you have already been defeated. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? ⁸ But you yourselves wrong and cheat, and you do this to fellow Christians! ⁹Do you not know that the unrighteous

will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived! The sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, passive homosexual partners, practicing homosexuals,¹⁰ thieves, the greedy, drunkards, the verbally abusive, and swindlers will not inherit the kingdom of God.

James 2:6-7 (NET) ⁶But you have dishonored the poor! Are not the rich oppressing you and dragging you into the courts? ⁷Do they not blaspheme the good name of the one you belong to?

Titus 2:3-5 (NET) ³ Older women likewise are to exhibit behavior fitting for those who are holy, not slandering, not slaves to excessive drinking, but teaching what is good. ⁴ In this way they will train the younger women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ to be self-controlled, pure, fulfilling their duties at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the message of God may not be discredited.

Revelation 13:6 (NET) ⁶ So the beast opened his mouth to blaspheme against God--to blaspheme both his name and his dwelling place, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

References: <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-terms/what-is-blasphemy-meaning-definition.html>

<https://carm.org/what-blasphemy-holy-spirit-can-christian-commit-it>

Biblical Studies Press, *The NET Bible First Edition; Bible. English. NET Bible.*; *The NET Bible* (Biblical Studies Press, 2005),