

## Matthew 12.22-32

**22** Then a demon-possessed man who was blind and unable to speak was brought to him. He healed him, so that the man[f] could both speak and see. **23** All the crowds were astounded and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"

**24** When the Pharisees heard this, they said, "This man drives out demons only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons."

**25** Knowing their thoughts, he told them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is headed for destruction, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. **26** If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? **27** And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons drive them out? For this reason they will be your judges. **28** If I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. **29** How can someone enter a strong man's house and steal his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house. **30** Anyone who is not with me is against me, and anyone who does not gather with me scatters. **31** Therefore, I tell you, people will be forgiven every sin and blasphemy, but the blasphemy against[g] the Spirit will not be forgiven.[h] **32** Whoever 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 one to come.

1. Intro -
  - a. Main Idea - Christ, through and by his spirit, offers forgiveness for ALL sins
    - i. 2 Reactions
    - ii. 2 Spirits
    - iii. 2 states
  - b. Read the Passage
2. 2 Reactions (22-24)
  - a. Amazed and Astonished
  - b. Anger and Argument
3. 2 Spirits (25-29)
  - a. Spirit Testifies
    - i. Conception - Luke 1.35
    - ii. Baptism - Matthew 3.16
    - iii. Isaiah 42.1- "This is my servant; I strengthen him, this is my chosen one; I delight in him. I have put my Spirit on him; he will bring justice to the nations.
    - iv. Isaiah 61.1 - The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.
  - b. On a missions

- i. Colossians 2.13-15 - And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, he made you alive with him and forgave us all our trespasses. **14** He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross. **15** He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; he triumphed over them in him.
    - ii. There is only Me and Satan - There is only Good and Evil - Ephesian 2.1-3
- 4. 2 State (30-32)
  - a. For or Against (30)
    - i. Every Sin Forgiven (31)
      - 1. What is he saying
        - a. Every Sin is forgiven
      - 2. What is he not saying
        - a. There isn't a magical phrase that will put you in hell
        - b. You can't deny your faith or lose your salvation
          - 1. Grace was freely given - no way to lose it
            - a. John 6.37 - Everyone the Father gives me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will never cast out.
          - 2. God doesn't cast our God
            - a. John 6.44 - No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws[i] him, and I will raise him up on the last day.
      - 3. What it means
        - a. Water in the Desert analogy
        - b. There is still hope for you
        - c. Hope for us all

Questions -

1. What amazes you about God/Christ/Holy Spirit?
  - a. How would thinking and meditating on that give you encouragement?
2. Can you think of a time you wanted credit for something that you didn't deserve credit for?
3. Is there something in your life that can only be attributed to God?
4. What does it really mean for there to be only two spirits?
  - a. Can you someone be just a good person?
5. What is something you struggle with accepting forgiveness for?
6. Do you really believe that your sins are forgiven?
7. How does living with assurance of salvation in Christ affect how you live day to day?