**Series**: Various Topical

**Luke 12:1-12**

**Title**: Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit

**Description**: What is the unforgiveable sin, and am I safe?

# Intro

* Previous sermon "Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit" and questions arising
	+ FCF
* Various understandings - some better than others; Still to be treaded carefully - on the nature of God and doctrine of sin and salvation
* Can sometimes tend to simplified philosophical views rather than literal biblical interpretation -> the goal is to be clear, yet humble. I myself have developed over time in my study of this Q.
* Also means then: a *study.* Will need your attention.
* If you take 1 thing away: take this: The Power of Christ
	+ may seem strange because "sinning against the Son of Man" is forgiven, but not the sin against the Holy Spirit - as if the Holy Spirit is a worse enemy to make
	+ But I believe we'll see that this is exactly what the Scripture establishes

# Read Luke 12:1-12

# Proposition

* Outline:
* What does Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit mean here in Luke 12?
* Application: Who is safe?
* What do we need to take away from this passage?

# Pray

# To blaspheme the Holy Spirit means

* "**To intentionally oppose the Spirit's revelation of Jesus Christ**" - with full knowledge, to prevent people from "seeing Christ for who He really is".
	+ (... To be clear: **for this sin, there is no forgiveness**. Mark 3:29 - *but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin*

Backing Scripture - important to note, in the context of ch10 to 12. To pick out the passages that show the relationship between the Son of Man, and the Holy Spirit; This will show us the unique role of the Holy Spirit, and why Blaspheming Him is a unique sin.

## ch10, Seeing Christ is a revelation by the Holy Spirit

* **read / explain 10:17-21**
* until the Holy Spirit opens eyes, Christ is unimpressive, unattractive to a lost soul

(Isa 53:2 2 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.)

* Sovereign, Divine, Glory: "**Your gracious will**".
* cf, **Isa 6**: concealing hope, sealing the waxed ears, until the appearance of Christ.
* **The Holy Spirit - announcement of Grace, anointing of the Christ**
	+ Isa 11:2 the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD
	+ Isa 42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations
	+ Isa 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news
* GRACE! Despite Israel's stiff necks and fat hearts - Isa 55:7-8...

let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. (Isa 55:7-8)

## ch 11: historical context: conflict with Pharisees and Lawyers/Scribes of Law

* **11:14-15, Read - "**theHoly Spirit is an unholyspirit/ demon"
* cf (Mar 3:29-30), "*but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin, for they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit.*"

**So here's this Marvellous Revelation of the Aeons, prepared in God, Gracious Will, in humility and love; Testified by the Holy Spirit in undeniable works... but in order to secure their political and religious power, keep their disciples and prevent Jesus, they 'malign the very Holy Spirit - ultimate testimony of who Jesus is'**

* See what Jesus says in **11:52-53 READ.**
* **Therefore** see Definition again, *"with full knowledge, to prevent people from "seeing Christ for who He really is".*

## Therefore,

* NOT a once-off event, mistake - but an abiding work
* CHARACTERISTICS : "Woes" in ch11
	+ Pseudo-spirit-uality **11:39,44**
	+ Intentional misleading away from True Christ **11:52**
	+ Delighting in Denouncing the True Christ **11:54**
* NOT ref to Grieving the Holy Spirit by your sin as a believer
* WILL BE NO: Repentance and Faith, but an eternal hardness
* NOT ref to Disbelief in Christ, even Hating Christ - that is the whole unsaved world!!

# So who is Safe? Am I safe?

* That definition will probably bring some relief to this congregation.
* "As long as I haven't committed the unforgiveable sin, I'm safe!"
* But only One kind of person is safe:
	+ NOT: the one who hasn't committed Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit
	+ BUT: the one who has confessed Christ before men! (READ 12:8-9)
* ***The Holy Spirit Reveals Jesus - that He can be confessed by us in faith***!

APP

* Today: God is revealing Christ - and what is your response? There are only 2 options:
	+ Confess Christ ("speak in agreement with" - to say what the Holy Spirit says about Christ)
	+ or Deny Christ : which results in the same state as the Blasphemer!!
	+ ... If you don't repent, when you stand "before the angels of God", will be denied by Him; receive the due penalty for your sins, cast into eternal Hell.
	+ ... But though you may have rejected Christ till now, you can confess Him today and receive the grace of God (Rom 10:9) *if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved*

# What do we need to take away?

* What Jesus takes away! = The fact that we can be forgiven for sinning against the Lord and Saviour doesn't make Him less powerful - only more powerful!
* No matter what opposes Jesus, He Takes it all Away
	+ Captives of Opposition (11:20-22)

cf "hindering us from speaking to them... that they might be saved-- so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last! (1Th 2:16)."

* + - BECAUSE Despite even the most sinister efforts to prevent His Revealing, Jesus is the Sovereign Plunderer of the Darkness, forcefully overpowering and rescuing those he chooses
	+ Sin of Opposition (12:10)
		- obviously, 'all' ref to those who confess Christ; BUT point is: unqualified forgiveness through faith: Sure, Definite, Total, unmerited, Free, Grace...

Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. (Isa 55:3)

* + Fear of Opposition (12:11)
		- BECAUSE the Work of the Holy Spirit becomes the Work in us - we continue the testimony of the Holy Spirit before opposition