

# What Is Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit?

- “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.” Matthew 12:31

This text is not saying that the Holy Spirit Himself will not forgive blasphemy; the sentence is in passive form, and does not name the One who can forgive.

But the Bible explains itself in other places. Who is hurt? Whose wrath will not be quenched? Who will not pardon our transgressions? The blasphemy spoken of here is ignoring **God’s voice** speaking to us through His Spirit.

This eternally separates us from God as we harden our hearts to His call and leads to eternal separation from Him. It leads to choosing sin and Satan as our master over God and as such to call upon the wrath of the Lord. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit means blasphemy against the Father and Son, and certainly not against another new being!

The blasphemy is against the Father and the Son who carries the Father’s name:

- “...So that the **Lord** could no longer bear, because of the evil of your doings...and have not obeyed the **voice of the Lord**...” Jeremiah 44:22-23
- “Yet many years didst thou forbear them, **and testifiedst against them by thy spirit** in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands.” Nehemiah 9:30
- “But in the transgression of man both the **Father and the Son were dishonored.**” Ellen White: Signs of the Times, December 12, 1895 par. 7

Why isn’t the Holy Spirit mentioned in the above passage? Why did the prophet not write that the Holy Spirit was dishonoured as well? It is because the Bible itself clearly states that the Holy Spirit is God’s Spirit, as the spirit of man is a part of man and not an autonomous being:

- “He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.” 1 Thessalonians 4:8
- “Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and **obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him.** But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak...” Exodus 23:20-22
- “In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the **angel of his presence** saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old. But they rebelled, and **vexed his holy Spirit:** therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.” Isaiah 63:9-10

Who is that Angel Who led Israel through the desert and who we can blaspheme against (anger) and who lives within us and speaks to us with His voice? That is Jesus Himself:

- “Israel had been preserved by a miracle of God’s mercy during every day of their travels in the wilderness. **The mighty Angel** who went before them **was the Son of God.**” Ellen White, The Spirit of Prophecy Volume One, p. 318, 1870

- “Behold, I will send **my messenger (Angel)**, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. **But who may abide the day of his coming?** and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap” Malachi 3:1-2
- “The **Holy Spirit is Himself** (Jesus) **divested of** the personality of **humanity**”! Ellen White: Lt 119, 1895.18:<https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/5294.1#1>
- “We want the **Holy Spirit, which is Jesus Christ**.” Ellen White: Letter 66, April 10, **1894** par. 18

Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit means that an individual is cutting him/herself off from any possibility for God to personally reach out to him/her. Only God works on people with His Holy Spirit, that is the Spirit of His personal presence! He wants to forgive us our sins, but many do not allow Him access to them to destroy sin in them.

- “The sin of **blasphemy** against the Holy Spirit does not lie in any sudden word or deed; it is the **firm, determined resistance of truth and evidence**.” Ellen White: S.D.A. Bible Commentaries Vol. 5, p. 1093 (Manuscript 30, 1890)
- “When the **Spirit of God is grieved away**, every appeal made through the Lord's servants is meaningless to them. They will **misconstrue every word**. They will laugh at and turn into ridicule the most solemn words of Scripture warnings, which, if they were not bewitched by satanic agencies, would make them tremble. Every appeal made to them is in vain. **They will not hear reproof or counsel**. They despise all the entreaties of the Spirit, and disobey the commandments of God which they once vindicated and exalted. Well may the words of the apostle come home to such souls, ‘Who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth?’ They follow the counsel of their own heart until truth is no more truth to them. Barabbas is chosen, **Christ is rejected**.” Ellen White: RH, Oct. 12, 1897
- “No one need look upon the **sin against the Holy Ghost** as something mysterious and indefinable. **The sin against the Holy Ghost is the sin of persistent refusal to respond to the invitation to repent. If you refuse to believe in Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour**, you love darkness rather than light, you love the atmosphere that surrounded the first great apostate. You choose this atmosphere **rather than the atmosphere that surrounds the Father and the Son**, and **God allows you to have your choice**.” Ellen White: RH, June 29, 1897
- “I know the danger of those who refuse to walk in the light as God gives it. They bring upon themselves the terrible crisis of being left to follow their own ways, to do after their own judgment. The conscience becomes less and less impressible. The **voice of God** seems to become more and more distant, and the wrong-doer is left to his own infatuation. In stubbornness he resists every appeal, despises all counsel and advice, and turns from every provision made for his salvation, **and the voice of the messenger of God** makes no impression upon his mind. **The Spirit of God** no longer exerts a restraining power over him, and the sentence is passed, “He is joined to idols, let him alone.” O how dark, how sullen, how obstinate, is his independence! It seems that the insensibility of death is upon his heart. This is the process through which the soul passes that rejects the working of the Holy Spirit.” Ellen White: Review and Herald, June 29, 1897}

Rejecting the personal Saviour and His sacrifice, which is what the Trinity doctrine teaches today, since it teaches that Jesus did not literally die but only his “robe of flesh”, is likewise a blasphemous rejection of Jesus Himself, who is now personally present by His Holy Spirit.

- “I would that all my brethren and sisters would remember that it is a serious thing to grieve the Holy Spirit; and it is **grieved when the human agent seeks to work himself**, and refuses to enter the service of the Lord because the cross is too heavy or the self-denial too great. The **Holy Spirit seeks to abide in each soul**. If it is welcomed as an honored guest, **those who receive it will be made complete in Christ**; the good work begun will be finished; and holy thoughts, heavenly affections, and Christlike actions will take the place of impure thoughts, perverse sentiments, and rebellious acts.” Ellen White: 18MR, p. 47.3
- **“Whatever the sin, if the soul repents and believes, the guilt is washed away in the blood of Christ; but** he who rejects the **work of the Holy Spirit** is placing himself where **repentance and faith cannot come to him**. It is by the **Spirit that God** works upon the heart; when men willfully reject the **Spirit**, and declare It to be from Satan, they cut off the channel by which God can communicate with them. **When the Spirit is finally rejected, there is no more that God can do for the soul**” Ellen White: Desire of Ages, p. 321.3
- “It is the Holy Spirit, the redeeming grace of truth in the soul, that makes the followers of Christ one with one another, and one with God. He alone can expel enmity, envy, and unbelief. He sanctifies the entire affections. He restores the willing, desirous soul from the power of Satan unto God. This is the power of grace. It is a divine power. Under its influence there is a change from the old habits, customs, and practices which, when cherished, separate the soul from God; and the work of sanctification goes on in the soul, constantly progressing and enlarging.” Ellen White: RH, Oct. 12, 1897

If the blasphemy was literally only against the Holy Spirit, then that would mean that the Holy Spirit is above the Father and the Son, which is inconsistent with the Trinity concept of three co-equal Persons. The Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy clearly tell us that it is the Holy Spirit that is above all others.

The Holy Spirit represents the presence of the Father and the Son in our minds. That is why the constant rejection of God’s presence and voice in our minds leads to such a hardening of heart, that we can no longer hear the Lord’s voice and refuse to repent from sin.

God can no longer work on our hearts and no longer has access to us, and so darkness is chosen over light.