

ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA LYING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT - BLASPHEMY

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To Whom does the blasphemy of the holy Spirit apply?

If the holy Spirit were the third Divine Being, it would mean that he is above the Father and the Son, because Jesus said that only blasphemy against the holy Spirit is unforgivable. Below we see that blasphemy against the holy Spirit, Their Spirit, refers personally to the Father and Jesus:

- "Behold, I send **an Angel (Jesus) 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}
- "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}
- "But in the transgression of man both the **Father and the Son were dishonored**." {Ellen White: The Signs of the Times, December 12, 1895, par. 7}
- "Who is a liar but he that **denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son**." {1 John 2:22}

Why is the holy Spirit not mentioned, if he really was the third Divine Being? Because the Bible says that the holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, just as the human spirit is a part of man, not a separate, special being.

- "He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but **God**, Who hath also given unto us **His holy Spirit**." {1 Thessalonians 4:8}
- "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}
- "But Peter said, **Ananias**, why hath Satan filled thine heart to **lie to the holy Ghost**, and to keep back part of the price of the land? ... thou hast **not lied unto men, but unto God**... Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to **tempt the Spirit of the Lord**?" {Acts 5:1-9}

That is why the above verse as well as the quotations before that one confirm this truth, because in them "God" does not say "holy Spirit" but the Spirit of the Lord, and that and Sapphira, by lying to the holy Spirit actually lied to God Himself!

Through these verses and words of EGW, this statement of Jesus becomes even more understandable:

- "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. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come." {Matthew 12:31.32}

We could read that God the Father and Jesus were personally offended through blasphemy and that there is no forgiveness for that sin! Jesus actually said that someone can say something against the Father or Him because he lacks the truth or did not understand it.

But when someone rejects the holy Spirit as the direct voice of God in us, who shows him the truth through thoughts without a detour, and that person nevertheless, without the possibility of excuse, rises ever deeper against God and the teaching, tramples His truth and leads others in the same direction, he eventually becomes a bully.

This, of course, also applies to the evil people of this world, who are also increasingly rejecting the voice of God's teaching. If it were not so, then Jesus himself would have contradicted His other statements!

Blasphemy includes the present and growing rejection of the first commandment, when there actually have been opportunities to acknowledge it.

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