

The Gospel of the King

Kingdoms at War

²⁰ Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹ And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.”

²² And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.”

²³ And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶ And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. ²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

²⁸ “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” — ³⁰ for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

- Mark 3:20-30 (ESV)

Context: Widely disparate views of who Jesus is...

The crowds:

His family:

The scribes of the Pharisees:

Jesus’ description of Himself:

We are left with these **3 options**: Is Jesus _____, _____, or _____?

What this passage teaches and why it’s so important:

The very _____ of the _____ is on display!

Jesus’ coming into the world marks the _____ in the war between _____ and _____ for the control of the _____ and its _____!

It is just as Isaiah prophesied:

²⁴ Can the prey be taken from the mighty, or the captives of a tyrant be rescued? ²⁵ For thus says the Lord: "Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken, and the prey of the tyrant be rescued, for I will contend with those who contend with you, and I will save your children. ²⁶ I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh, and they shall be drunk with their own blood as with wine. Then all flesh shall know that I am the Lord your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

Isaiah 49:24-26

GREAT News from this passage:

- 1) You can be _____ from Satan's grasp!
- 2) All kinds/categories/types of _____ will be _____!
- 3) All kinds/categories/types of sins committed by all kinds/categories/types of _____ will be forgiven!

One enduring **warning**:

"whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"

An analogy:

It's important for us to note that Mark places this saying as a _____, not as a _____ or cause for _____. There is no record in Scripture of anyone asking forgiveness of God and being denied it!

My response: