

Can All Sin be Forgiven?

Are you a sinner? Join the club. You are a member of the human race. Everyone who has ever lived has also been a sinner except Christ Jesus Himself.

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

My Sins are Too Great to be Forgiven

We are all sinners, but some of us have committed far worse sins than others. Right? Have you committed a really bad sin? Adultery? Murder?

Worse? ALL of the prophets in the Bible committed sin. We will look at a few examples here.

Moses committed murder.

Exo 2:11 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren. Exo 2:12 And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

David knowingly and willingly committed adultery.

2Sa 11:3 And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?

2Sa 11:4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.

King David committed adultery with Uriah's wife and then had Uriah murdered. To top it all off, he had Uriah deliver his own death sentence. Paul, who was also known as Saul, persecuted Christians unmercifully, yet he wrote most of the New Testament.

Act 22:4 And I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.

Paul admits he consented to the stoning of Stephen.

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Sin

Request for Pardon

Applicant name: _____

A request for _____ additional pardon is hereby requested on behalf of the above named convicted sinner on the grounds that he or she wants to be pardoned. He or she does not repent of her sins

This informational pamphlet examines different aspects of sin from a Biblical standpoint.



Act 22:20 And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.

These are just a few examples of sins committed by prophets. These examples demonstrate we can still have hope even if we have committed particularly heinous sins like these prophets did.

The Unpardonable Sin

Mat 12:31 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. Mat 12:32 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.

Many people misunderstand these verses. A quick search on the internet will turn up tales of people who believe they have committed the unpardonable sin. People may believe they are damned because they had an instance in their life when they were mad at God and cursed at Him. Others may believe they are damned, no matter what they do now, because they denied God or worshiped under a false religion at some point in their life. The simple fact these folks are worried about their actions toward God is evidence God is still working with them. We must understand what blasphemy is in order to understand the meaning of these verses. The definition of blasphemy is summed up in the book of John.

Joh 10:33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.

Blasphemy is not simply being angry with God and saying something foolish in a moment of rage. Blasphemy is not ignorantly partaking in a false system of worship. Blasphemy is attempting to take the place of God or attempting to make oneself

equal to God. Blasphemy against the Holy Ghost is attempting to replace the perfect, sacred, and vital principles given by God with the flawed principles of man. But, even these acts may be forgivable IF one repents of those actions and begins to follow God. Paul is a perfect example of this.

Here is the Good News

1Jn 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 1Jn 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

There is nothing in anyone's past which cannot be forgiven, IF that person repents and begins following God. Take a look at this verse which makes the point remarkably well.

Isa 59:1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

These next two verses tell us to call upon the LORD. They continue by telling us God will forgive us and have mercy on us if we stop being unrighteous and wicked.

Isa 55:6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

The next two verses tell us God will blot our sins out, as if they never existed, even if those sins are very great. Our past is irrelevant if we make the choice to start following God.

Isa 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. Isa 1:19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

A Bump in the Road

Heb 10:26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

Some people take this verse to mean we cannot sin after we come to the knowledge of Christ. The fact is we will all sin from time to time. We can again turn to the words of Paul. He tells us he continued to sin. He states there were times when he knew he should do something, yet he did not do it, and at other times, he knew he should not do something, yet he did it anyway.

Rom 7:19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

We will all fall off the righteous wagon from time to time. We need to recognize it when that happens. Then we must repent. We must ask for forgiveness and go about life with the intention of not sinning again. This is also how God instructs us to deal with others who offend us.

Luk 17:3 Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. Luk 17:4 And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.

Would God ask us to be more merciful than He is with us? Of course not. God will forgive us if we are sincere in our efforts to live righteously.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We may think we are not worthy to ask God for forgiveness because of things we have done. That line of thought could not be further from the truth. *Mat 9:12 But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. Mat 9:13 But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*