

Mark 3:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:

Analysis

Verily I say unto you All sins shall be forgiven unto sons of men and blasphemies wherewith they blaspheme. Verily amēn truly solemn declaration. All sins pasai hai hamartiai every kind of sin. Shall be forgiven aphethēsetai future passive divine forgiveness. Sons of men huiois tōn anthrōpōn humanity. Blasphemies blasphemiai slander evil speaking. Wherewith hosa whatever kind. They blaspheme blasphemēsōsin speak evil against. Sweeping statement of grace amplitude. No sin beyond God forgiveness except one following verse. Murder adultery theft blasphemy all forgivable. Gospel offer unlimited scope. Christ atonement sufficient for all sins. Reformed theology emphasizes particular redemption Christ died for elect but gospel offer is universal. All who come will be forgiven. Grace super-abounds over sin.

Historical Context

Context Pharisees accused Jesus of casting out demons by Satan power (3:22). Jesus warns against blasphemy of Holy Spirit unforgivable sin. This verse establishes God grace first before warning. All sins forgivable emphasizes grace breadth. Pharisees committed terrible sin attributing Holy Spirit work to Satan. Yet even this might be forgiven if they repented. Unforgivable sin is final impenitent rejection attributing obvious divine work to Satan. Augustine argued unforgivable sin is dying in unbelief. Reformed view perseverance of saints means

true believers cannot commit unforgivable sin. Those who worry about having committed it thereby prove they have not. Concern indicates Spirit work.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does all sins forgivable reveal about breadth of God grace and Christ atonement sufficiency?
2. How does amplitude of forgiveness except one sin shape our understanding of gospel offer?

Interlinear Text

Ἀμήν	λέγω	ὕμῖν	ὅτι	πάντα	ἀφεθήσεται	τὰ
Verily	I say	unto you	G3754	All	shall be forgiven	G3588
G281	G3004	G5213		G3956	G863	
ἁμαρτήματα	τοῖς	υἱοῖς	τῶν	ἀνθρώπων	καὶ	
sins	G3588	unto the sons	G3588	of men	and	
G265		G5207		G444	G2532	
βλασφημίας	ὅσας	ἂν	βλασφημήσωσιν·			
blasphemies	wherewith	soever	they shall blaspheme			
G988	G3745	G302	G987			

Additional Cross-References

Luke 12:10 (Parallel theme): And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven.

1 John 5:16 (Sin): If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

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