

'The Unpardonable Sin'

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CA digest of Billy Sunday's sermon preached Tuesday night at the tabernacle follows:

In Matthew, the 12th chapter, 21st verse: "Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men, but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven unto men neither in this world nor in the world to come."

No that sweeps the sand from beneath the feet of any man who says that there is future probation for the sinner. There is no hope for the man who dies without Jesus Christ.

The Pharisees charged with Jesus with being in league with the devil. They said to Him: "Why, you have a devil."

They grew bolder in their denunciation and said to Him: "You are a devil, you do what you do through Beelzebub, the prince of devils."

Jesus said: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. If I am a devil, will you explain to me how it is I am working against the devil and everything I say and everything I do hurts the devil and his business?"

If I was the mouthpiece of the devil I wouldn't be on the other side, and I'd be working for the devil."

They couldn't answer His argument, but it made them so mad they spat in His face and finally they nailed Him to the cross.

I know there are various opinions held by men and women as to what they imagine constitutes the unpardonable sin, for which God says He will neither forgive nor blot out in this world or in the world to come.

Some people think it could have been committed only by those who saw Jesus in the flesh. Then, I am not in danger and neither are you.

Others think it is committed by those who saw Jesus permitted His miracles. You didn't see Jesus on earth when He performed miracles.

There are other people who think it is committed by those who saw Jesus in the world of the spirit. They have committed the unpardonable sin and they spend their time in fear and dread.

Thousands Commit This Sin. I believe there are thousands that will come under the head of my text tonight. They are never gloomy or cast down or depressed. Their consciences are at ease, nothing seems ever to disturb them. Life seems to be one grand, sweet song, a never ending dream.

You will please lay aside any preconceived ideas or opinions which you may have or still possess as to what you may imagine or think constitutes the unpardonable sin. (But you will have to have an open mind and an open heart) and if time will permit and my strength will allow and your patience endure, I will try to ask and answer these questions:

Who can commit it? How may I know if I have committed it? Why will not God forgive it? He says He never will neither in this world nor in the world to come.

It isn't swearing. If swearing were the unpardonable sin there are lots of people in heaven that would have to leave and go to hell. It isn't swearing.

It isn't drunkenness. Some of the brightest lights that have ever blazed for Jesus Christ and have lighted up the dark spots of this sin soaked world have been men and women who were drunkards and drunkennes.

Hundreds of these would have to go to hell, and there are multitudes of redeemed drunkards on their way to heaven who would have to turn and go on the way to perdition.

It isn't adultery. "Neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more." It isn't theft. He said: "This day has salvation come to this house."

It isn't murder. Paul stood there and he was accused after the fact of stoning Christians to death. He went to Damascus with authority to imprison and murder those who believed that Jesus was the Christ, the son of God.

God's Call Not Heeded. To my mind it is plain and simple, nothing but the constant and continual and final rejection of Jesus Christ as your personal Savior.

You say, "No." I do not pretend to be able to say when the time takes place in the life of any man or woman when you hear the last call, but the man or the woman who refuses as God's spirit pleads with you, may forever seal your doom and you must have eyes in the back of your head if you can't see that God's spirit is moving upon this city as perhaps never before.

But you hear the call and go about your business, go about the duties of your home and society. You are too busy to have any special form of sin, no single act, but any sin may harden your heart and fix your character, to the extent that you will refuse to give that up and by continually refusing your heart grows hard.

Here you are, living in sin. God's spirit calls to you to be a Christian. You say "No" and you keep on indulging in that sin until the time will come when God says: "If you think more of the sin than you do of salvation, then you can take that sin and go."

It is no one act, but the constant repetition of the same thing, refusing to be a Christian and your heart becomes hard and your will is set and you grieve the spirit of God and He will bear with you no more and He will let you alone.

Rejecting God Seals Destiny. So therefore, to say "No" to God in this solemn hour of life may mean your eternal destiny. No one glaring fact, but the repetition of the same thing.

There is one cord that swings through the world tonight and that is the Holy Ghost, and with every pulsation of your heart it grows less. It did swing close to you at one time, but you said "No."

You are like my friend who died in the west without Jesus Christ and without hope.

By the known laws of your mind your conversion must be effected through the influence of the truth on your mind. It is a known law of the mind that truth resisted loses its power over the mind that resists it, and that each resistance weakens the truth, strengthens you against the truth, and each resistance makes it that much harder for you to yield and do the right.

No matter what Jesus said or did, they said He was a liar and a fraud and they refused to believe Him. He stood one day at the grave of Lazarus, who had been dead four days. He cried: "Lazarus, come forth!" He that was dead awakened to life.

Jesus said: "Is that enough to convince you I am the Son of God?"

One day He was going into the city of Nain. They were bearing a young man out to the cemetery. Jesus came along the road and stopping He took the corpse by the hand and bending over the dead body He said: "Young man, I say unto you, arise!"

Jesus turned to the crowd and said: "Is that enough to convince you that I am the Son of God?"

They said: "Away with Him." No matter what He said, they wouldn't believe Him.

Out in a town in Indiana. I think it was Kokomo, there was a woman named Mrs. Robinson, who worked more especially in those days in a Methodist church holding a meeting.

There was a young lady very prominent in society whom they tried to get to give her heart to Christ, but she wouldn't do it. The last night of the meeting came. When Mrs. Robinson got through preaching she personally invited her to come. The young lady shook her head. Three times she went down and urged this girl.

When she returned to the platform she saw her turn to her companion, borrow his lead pencil and take out a hymn book and write something in the book. Then she folded her arms and looked earnestly about the room. The meeting closed.

Seven months afterwards Mrs. Robinson went back to the same town. She was met at the train by a woman, who said: "Do you remember Miss B? She's dying. Maybe you can help her."

She hurried to the home and rapped on the door and asked to see her. When she was ushered in the room the girl took one look at her and said: "You are too late." She said: "If you will go to the church and find the hymn book you will find the reason for it's written in there."

My friend hurried to the church and in company with some friends searched and found the hymn book. There, written on the flyleaf, she found these words: "I will run the risk. I will take the chance."

The spirit of God never called her again. He left her. That was the last chance she ever had. God says: "My Spirit shall not always strive with man."

That does not mean that God's Spirit will be withdrawn from the world in general. When that occurs then God will wind up things in this old world.

Who can commit this sin? I used to think only a prostitute, a vile and immoral person, a degenerate. Who did Jesus warn? The Pharisees, and who were they? The best men morally in Jerusalem, and there is not a man in this city that can measure up to a higher standard of morality and truth than the Pharisees in the days of Jesus. They were zealous to stone the offenders against the moral law, yet that was the crowd of which Jesus said: "You are in danger of hell fire and damnation."

Holy Spirit Convines. The best man who can commit it, the best man or woman morally in this city that can measure up to Jesus Christ—your name may be synonymous with virtue, honor, integrity and philanthropy, your name may be as good as a government bond for any reasonable amount at any bank, you may be true to your wife, you would do before you'd sidestep your marriage vows and break the pledge

you took amidst the perfume of the orange blossoms. I honor you for it. You may even defend me against that gang that hasn't any use for me. My friend Goddell said: "The best loved and worst hated man in America."

I couldn't be decent and have the friendship of that dirty, stinking, Godforsaken, black headed gang. I don't want it! I don't want it! They can go to hell.

You may even defend the meetings or the Bible, but you let Jesus Christ get into your hearts and try to get you on your feet to walk down these aisles, and your hearts are seething like a hot fruit and God can make no impression upon you in the world.

What is the work of the Holy Spirit? It hasn't a drop of blood, but here! You listen to a man preach or sing or pray and something says: "I ought to be a Christian."

That's the Holy Spirit convicting you that you need the salvation that Jesus has provided.

The Holy Ghost can't save you but the office work of the Holy Ghost is to make you feel your need of salvation. Jesus Christ provided for you when He died on the cross, and the Holy Spirit is the only representative of the Trinity in the world today.

God spoke to the world through the old Mosaic ceremonial law and Jesus was born—born of a woman and conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, born in the manger. Jesus came into the world. He spoke to the people through word and deed, fulfilled the law, Jews and Gentiles conspired. They killed Jesus Christ and when He arose from the dead the Holy Spirit came down and He's been in the world as the only regenerating force since the day of Pentecost.

We are living in the dispensation of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, it takes the Holy Spirit to convict you that you are a sinner; it takes the sacrifice death of Jesus Christ to open up the plan of salvation; it takes the pardon of God for you to be saved; it takes the Trinity to keep a soul out of hell.

Sin is No Trifle. Sin is no trifle, but it takes the Holy Spirit to convict you that you are a sinner; it takes your faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ to forgive your sins; it takes the pardon through your faith in Christ, convicted by the Holy Ghost, that you need.

Oh, God! Sin is no trifle, God says sin is no trifle when it takes the Trinity to keep you out of hell.

That never forgiveness neither in this world neither in the world to come.

"How does it show itself?" asks a man or woman. Oh, I don't know. There are dozens of ways, but they are all subdivisions of two principles. First, by its magnanimity. Take a man or woman that has sinned away their day of grace. Nothing astra that old reprobate like seeing the great throngs of people back in this building, going through all the inconveniences, my friends, that you have to, walking, as thousands of you do, coming long distances to the tabernacle. Nothing airs him so with hatred as to see the people come and want to be decent.

That can't bear to be decent themselves and they don't want anybody else to be decent and so the dirty reprobates live, and they are trying to divert the attention from their own contemptible living. After you fight that dirty gang for 30

years as I have you will learn some things that I have learned. If that dirty bunch said anything good about me then I'd know I was wrong, sure.

Deaths, Repentances Secured. I have never said here or anywhere that all unbelievers are in agony. Ordinarily a man dies as he has lived. I don't go very much on so-called deathbed repentances. I think it's a mean, dirty, stinking, low down, contemptible, unmanly, unwomanly thing to keep the control of your life in your own hands.

Indulging in your pleasures and your desires diametrically opposed to your conscience and the word of God, when God's spirit bids and pleads with you to forsake sin, then when you are lying on your deathbed while like a sick cat and while for the preacher to save your carcass. After you've drained the cup of life, then you throw the dregs into the face of God; after you've burned the candle of life in the service of the devil, have the audacity to blow the smoke in God's face.

I presume there are men and women who have never stopped to consider their soul's eternal destiny, who may take time to consider and shudder, there washed. If you never had a chance before and never had another, you'd go out and squeeze this old world like you would a lemon. But, by the eternal God, men and women, while I am in possession of the very apex of my physical and intellectual development and power, I want to give that to God and to Jesus Christ and humanity, so when I drift out with this life I won't have to spend my time whining and snuffling to God and confessing my sins, when I ought to have done it and been getting ready years ago.

No one is going to act, but constant repetition of the same thing until the Spirit of God leaves you!

A friend of mine was called upon one time to read the burial service of the church over the remains of one of the godliest women he'd ever read on their deathbed. If you never had a chance before and never had another, you'd go out and squeeze this old world like you would a lemon. But, by the eternal God, men and women, while I am in possession of the very apex of my physical and intellectual development and power, I want to give that to God and to Jesus Christ and humanity, so when I drift out with this life I won't have to spend my time whining and snuffling to God and confessing my sins, when I ought to have done it and been getting ready years ago.

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don't you feel so bad. You know we will all see mother again." My friend said he raised one of the saddest faces he'd ever seen and said: "Well, perhaps you will, but I never expect to. I'm not going that way. I don't believe that way."

Three days later they found his body in the gutter, back of a state beer joint and he died, my friends, as he lived, without hope in Jesus Christ.

"All manner of sin" God says He will forgive.

In his days of ribaldry and jest Bob Ingersoll says: "If God can't forgive sin, he's not divine."

God has a right to state the terms upon which you can have salvation and if you are not willing to comply with God's terms then go to hell, but don't try to throw it into the teeth of God and say He is not loving.

Steamer Burned, Crew Saved. WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The American schooner Blue Peter, owned by the Wynnrover Line, burned at sea on December 12, the American legation at Montevideo reported to the state department this afternoon. The report stated that all hands were saved and landed at Punta Del Este, Uruguay.

"Jim Crow" Agitation Results in Establishing Separate Negro Movies. Special to The World. PONCA CITY, Dec. 12.—Resulting from action taken by the chamber of commerce several weeks ago looking toward a "Jim Crow" theater here in order to help solve the servant problem by giving the negroes some place of amusement, a negro movie theater was opened here last night by two local theater men, C. P. McQuilken and R. L. Browning.

The negro movie is run entirely separate and in another building but will be given feature films. This course was taken by theater men rather than provide Jim Crow sections in their uptown theaters.

Sues Near-Hubby's Mother. LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 13.—After waiting 22 years to marry Louis Henry Howe of Humboldt, and then suing him for failure to wed, Miss Jenny Fellers cannot collect the \$22,000 awarded her by the state supreme court. Miss Fellers is now

using Howe's 96-year-old mother has made over all his property to her for that amount, alleging that Howe parent.

WOMEN CONTEST VALUABLE TITLE

Widow and Divorcee Both Lay Claim to Calls-him Allotment

PONCA CITY, Dec. 12.—One of the most valuable Indian allotments on which oil has been found in this section of the state, is tied up and the royalties therefrom are piling up in the bank as the result of Louisa Calls-him, a Ponca Indian woman, being successful in getting set aside, during the present term of the district court, a divorce which her former husband, George Calls-him, has secured from her. Later Calls-him married Flora LeClair and upon his death, nine months later, the land would be inherited by Flora and George Calls-him, jr., a son of the deceased.

Louisa Calls-him now alleges that the divorce was not legally obtained and in having it set aside, she, instead of Flora LeClair, would inherit the land, an 80-acre tract, which is a good oil producer.

Louisa testified in court recently that she had no knowledge at the time of the pendency of a divorce action against her, and one witness testified that Louisa was not present when she signed as a witness to Flora's mark.

In the meantime, ignorant, it is said, of the action in the local courts, Flora LeClair is visiting with Omaha Indian friends in Nebraska. A message has been sent her to come back immediately and she is expected in this week. The land involved, because of its oil production, is worth a quarter million dollars.

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INSURANCE Protected against violent storms by reliable old line insurance companies. This gives you complete protection.

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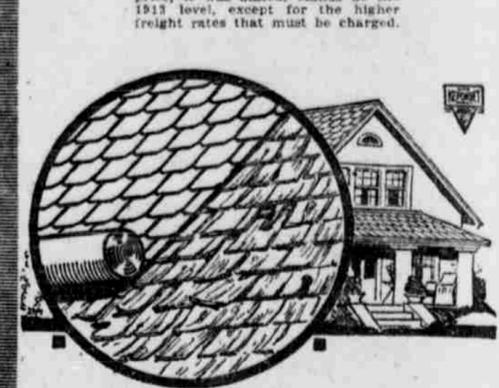
Roofing Prices Reduced

During December

News Item From Tulsa World, Dec. 9th.

Roofing Prices Cut. CHICAGO Dec. 9.—Sweeping price reductions were announced by roof material manufacturers today.

The reductions affect prepared roofing and asbestos shingles. The new price, it was stated, stands at the 1913 level, except for the higher freight rates that must be charged.



Now is the time to have a pretty Art Craft (Tile Design) Roof applied over your leaking shingles at very small cost.

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Do you want a premium or—do you want Quality when you buy food to eat

THE housewife of the great Southwest is a shrewd buyer of food for her family. She wants Quality — not premiums; especially when a premium is used to introduce a substitute for what she has been accustomed to buying.

There are no premiums back of the remarkable popularity of Post Toasties — all quality — 100%. Rich, thick, golden-brown corn flakes made by a patented process that the imitators can't successfully imitate.

No premiums but highest quality in every package

Post Toasties

that's why they're so popular



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