



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

NINILCHIK

11/1/23 - Lesson 41

“Praying Like John: The Sin that Leads to Death”

1 John 5:16-17

ESV, If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life— to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. ¹⁷All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

KJV, 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. ¹⁷All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

I. What is the “*sin that leads to death*”?

A. blasphemy against the Holy Spirit

1. **Matt 12:31**, “*Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.*”

a. complete rejection of Jesus Christ

b. see 7-fold work of Holy Spirit

i. John 14:12, 16, 26; 15:26; 16:8, 13, 14

II. What kinds of persons commit the “*sin that leads to death*”?

A. four New Testament candidates

1. **sons of destruction**

a. Matt 26:24 “*The Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.*”

b. John 17:9 “*I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given Me, for they are yours.... ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in Your name, which You have given Me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.*”

2. false brethren

a. 1 Cor 16:22 *If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come!*

i. “accursed” translated “*anathema*” (KJV), Gk. ἀνάθεμα

3. false preachers

a. Gal 1:8-9 *But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.*

i. Gk. ἀνάθεμα

4. antichrists

a. 1 John 2:18; 4:1-6

b. examples of such antichrists today

i. Apollo Quiboloy (b.1950), Kingdom of Jesus Christ, The Name Above Every Name, Inc. (Philippines)

ii. Alan John “A.J.” Miller (b.1963), Divine Truth (Australia); “All we do is present seminars and answer people's questions. I still for the life of me can't quite understand where the cult thing has come from. There were lots of people in the first century who didn't believe I was the Messiah and were offended by what I said— and in fact I died at the hands of some of them.”

iii. David Shayler (b.1965), former MI5 domestic intelligence officer (Great Britain)

“I do not say that one should pray for that.”

Gk. ἐρωτάω (*er-ō-TA-ō*) by implication request

III. How then should we pray?

A. pray compassionately with regard to a fellow believer's sins

B. pray with discernment because of the depraved world in which we live

C. pray with humility and godly fear, not presumptuously, before our heavenly Father