



Chapter 12:22-32

- Matt. 12:22 Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw.
- Matt. 12:23 And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"
- Matt. 12:24 Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, "This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."
- Matt. 12:25 But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.
- Matt. 12:26 If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?
- Matt. 12:27 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges.
- Matt. 12:28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.
- Matt. 12:29 Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.
- Matt. 12:30 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.
- Matt. 12:31 "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.
- Matt. 12:32 Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

Observations & Discussion

1. Whose son?

A. Why did the people wonder if Jesus might be the Son of David?

B. Why did the Pharisees accuse Jesus of being the Son of the Devil?

2. Whose power?

A. What defense does Jesus offer to prove that the Pharisees accusation is wrong?

B. How is faith in Jesus different than the faith demanded by other religions?

3. Who side?

A. Jesus makes it clear that when it comes to our thoughts about His identity that there are only two sides. Why do you think Jesus is so serious about the question of His identity?

4. Read vs. 28-29 and identify the following:

Who is the "strong man"?

What is "his house"?

Who is represented by the "plunder(ed) goods"?

Who is the one that binds the strong man?

What does Jesus want us to understand from this illustration?

5. Based on our text how would you define the "blasphemy against the Spirit"?