

Unpardonable Sin

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much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger. 7 He even set a carved image of Asherah that he had made, in the house of which the LORD had said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever; 8 "and I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land which I gave their fathers—only if they are careful to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them." 9 But they paid no attention, and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD had destroyed before the children of Israel. 10 ¶ And the LORD spoke by His servants the prophets, saying, 11 "Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these abominations (he has acted more wickedly than all the Amorites who were before him, and has also made Judah sin with his idols), 12 "therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Behold, I am bringing such calamity upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, both his ears will tingle. 13 'And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria and the plummet of the house of Ahab; I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. (2 Kings 21: 1-13).

and again (and THIS is scary!)

25 ¶ Now before him [*speaking of King Josiah*] there was no king like him, who turned to the LORD with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses; nor after him did any arise like him. 26 Nevertheless the LORD did not turn from the fierceness of His great wrath, with which His anger was aroused against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked Him (2 Kings 23:25,26).

What can Britain and Britons, from the top persons to the lowest, and all London learn from all this? Remember, even when the pagan capital city of Ninevah (an ancient London!) was to be

destroyed according to the word of God's prophet, Jonah, at God's express command, the king demanded such thorough repentance throughout the realm that their destruction was averted! The king said in desperation: 9 "Who may say that God will not be turned, changing his purpose and turning away from his burning wrath, so that destruction may not overtake us? 10 And God saw what they did, how they were turned from their evil way; and God's purpose was changed as to the evil which he said he would do to them, and he did it not." (Jonah 3:9,10). **Who can tell?!**

But don't think that some of the sins of Manasseh were so much worse, for people by the thousands in London and all over Britain send their children to the flames of Moloch in a very real sense by their idolatry of so many things that, while they do not burn the skin, they destroy the soul, the morals and the minds of generations! And the awesome reality is that, especially here in London with its extremely diverse population, *THAT* horrible influence cannot help but bleed out to other nations...and will God hold Britain guiltless? NEVER! However, do not let other nations think they are so innocent and holy, for God had cast out other nations from "the Promised Land" before He had to do the same to Israel. It is just like drunkenness, idolatry, deceit, corruption and lying (all liars go to the lake of fire!), sexual perversion of all sorts, adultery, human slavery, robbery, murder...you name it...it is a world-wide plague, and God will certainly judge it. "Unpardonable"? Yes, UNLESS people turn away from it all entirely! BUT in Matt.21:28-32 Jesus tells a parable then gives the application that, even though those people saw the truth, **THEY DID NOT REPENT!!** We see this same thing happening in Revelation: "Neither would they repent!" Jesus DID speak of an unpardonable sin, but remember, in Hell there are *none* who can be pardoned ever again. The time to change is NOW. Don't wait for others. Start for God and heaven now, by yourself if necessary, and the Lord has promised never to forsake you (see Heb.13:5,6).

Jesus Christ raised Lazarus, from the dead— dead 4 days!

Yet Jesus' enemies wanted to kill Lazarus too! In another case, Jesus had completely healed a community's worst citizen (blind, lame, possessed, running around naked, cutting himself and unable to be chained even with iron!). But, instead of being happy, the town people told Jesus to go away! (Mk.5; Lk.8:26) Now, you tell me who is mad! But what can we learn from this about ourselves?

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The London Christian Standard ...and Provincial

"Lift up a standard for the people." Isaiah 62:10

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Sin That Can't Be Pardoned

Written by
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Last month we celebrated Good Friday and Easter. One part of Christ's crucifixion was the scene of mockery around the Cross. Interestingly, a man last month had a real laugh at my expense regarding forgiveness. What he may not have realised was that his mocking words were almost identical to some of those spoken at the foot of the Cross! This man of another religion found it a joke, and laughed profusely, that I expected Christ, who *apparently* couldn't save Himself, to save ME! **In this man I personally heard some of the crucifixion sound-effects for myself:** "Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" (Matt. 27: 41-43). The day came, as Jesus had foretold

before His crucifixion, that the city of Jerusalem was utterly destroyed and the people slaughtered. There was a previous time when the city had been wiped out, for the Bible history in the Old Testament records as follows:

¶ 3 "Surely at the commandment of the LORD this came upon Judah, to remove them from His sight because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he had done, 4 and also because of the innocent blood that he had shed; for he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, which the LORD would not pardon." (2 Kings 24: 3,4)

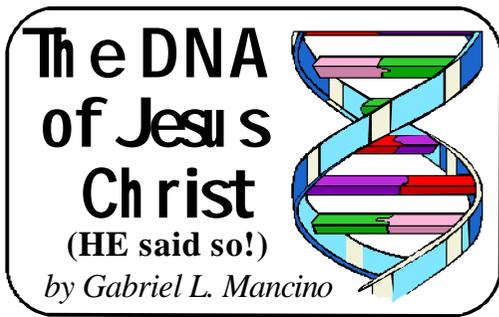
and again

¶ 1 "Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah. 2 And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel. 3 For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; he raised up altars for Baal, and made a wooden image, as Ahab king of Israel had done; and he worshiped all the host of heaven and served them. 4 He also built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put My name." 5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. 6 Also he made his son pass through the fire, practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, and consulted spiritists and mediums. He did

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Does The Title Above Sound Scary?

More Bible is given so you can read for yourself what can happen to individuals and nations. I hope it's easy to follow, while still getting the point. Read carefully, take it to heart, and "make straight paths for your feet!" (Isa. 62:10) Note: Ascension Day, 25 May! Pentecost Sunday: 4 June



Repeatedly, the question is asked if Jesus is God or the son of God or what? What compelling “courtroom” evidence would it take to demonstrate and establish that though Jesus was a real man, yet He was *more* than a mere man or prophet.

I do not obtain any “evidence” from extraneous stories of Jesus’ life and ministry such as the popular **Da Vinci Code** with its perversion which (like the “**Judas Gospel**” which has made news recently) came from sources which were actually infiltrating the early church already in the 1st century (though Dan Brown blames **Constantine & Company** of the 4th century!). Likewise, I do not use the “testimony” of **Jehovah’s Witnesses**, who are modern-day spreaders of 4th century false teachings about God and Jesus, though there are some nice people among them. Furthermore, I cannot make use of the Koran’s record of Jesus, for having read it, I immediately see that the **Jesus of the Bible and the Jesus of the Koran are not the same person.**

Any courtroom in this country demands eyewitness account, and St. Peter says, “*We have not followed cleverly and skillfully devised legends, fables or myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honour and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’ And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.*” (2 Peter 1:16-18). **That satisfies the court!** Of course, the world wants Jesus demoted, discredited or destroyed, so TV “documentaries,” and magazines pour out a steady flow of “worthwhile data” that undermines the faith of those whose attention they have.

“Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill Him, because He had not only broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.” (John 5:18).

Here’s an illustration: A new company leader sits down with a colleague and informs him in “brutally blunt” fashion that the colleague would be sacked, but for the “mercy” of the new leader. The colleague suspects that the new leader is insecure, and time confirms the observation as the new leader goes about with an overbearing manner to impress those around that HE is in charge. Was this like Jesus Christ? Did Jesus come with pompous strut, making egotistic declarations of His identity, position and demands? Never!

So what did Jesus do or say? St. Luke, in Acts 1:3,4 (as in Lk. 1:1-4), writes to his friend named Theophilus, saying: “*The first narrative account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day He was taken up.*” **When a person is looking for evidence, they turn over every stone, and make notes of the findings.** As you walk with and listen to Jesus as you read through the Gospel (Matt., Mark, Luke, & John), pay attention... close attention... to what He says, what He does, what He does and doesn’t permit to be said or done in His presence, etc.

Again I ask, Was Jesus a “show-off?” No, for as St. Paul says, “*He made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, becoming a man like other men, and did not reckon His equality with God a treasured thing to be tightly grasped and forcibly retained*” (Phil. 2: 5-7). **In one of the many stories Jesus gave, He illustrated how impossible it is to satisfy people in general.** There (Matt. 11:16-20; Lk. 7:31-35), He illustrated how God did one thing, and the people didn’t like it...and another opposite approach, and the people still didn’t accept it — and neither did they repent! Sound familiar?

In John 8:17-19, Jesus Himself bore testimony to His identity, but added that God agreed!: “*It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me. Then they said to Him, ‘Where is Your Father?’ Jesus answered, ‘You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.*” **If we find agreeing evidence from “opposing sides,” it seems worthy of serious consideration! NOTICE!** Jesus first said THE Father, but His enemies said to Jesus YOUR Father, meaning that they understood perfectly what Jesus was saying.

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As the dialogue continued between Jesus and His religious opposers, mention is made of connection to Abraham. His opposers then refer to Jesus in derogatory manner, saying He is not a Jew, and twice declared that He had a demon! Many today do similarly to Christ. At the close of the dialogue, Jesus (speaking of His existence prior to His earthly Bethlehem birth) uses a special name to refer to Himself that His Jewish religious opposers recognised. Those men were *extremely* knowledgeable about the ancient Hebrew Scriptures, and knew that **the name Jesus used for Himself was one that referred only to God Almighty.** As a result, they prepared to stone Him immediately.

This was not the only time it happened for the same reason, and the Bible records it. **In John 10:30-36 we see another such confrontation.** His enemies said, “*For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.*” In Jesus reply, He said “*do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God?’*”

Now think! Jesus believed that there was only one God and that God is to be worshipped alone. We can read this, for example, when Jesus replies to Satan in the “wilderness temptation” (Matt.4). Yet, Jesus accepted worship without correcting the worshipper, as in John 20:28, when after the resurrection Thomas cries out to Jesus, “*My Lord and my God.*” (Thomas wasn’t swearing!). But in John 10:30-36 above, Jesus had referred to Himself using the Divine name applied only to God, and NOTE IT: His enemies understood it perfectly, and Jesus didn’t deny it or tell them (for whatever reason) that they had misunderstood Him. It was such confrontations as this that gave His enemies reason to mockingly declare as Jesus hung on the Cross for our sins: “*for He said, ‘I am the Son of God!’*”

The Jews waited for millennia for the Messiah to come, and linked the Messiah with Divinity and God-ness, not merely a human being, even of prophet status. When the “woman at the well” of Samaria (John 4:25,26) mentioned this coming Messiah to Jesus, He replied, **(Note: Jesus is saying this!)** “*I that speak to you am He!*” Once again, we see **Jesus’ DNA: Divine Nature Attested!**

Comment on the Bible verse at bottom left: People have talked much about “the fatherhood of God,” and saying “we are ALL children of God.” In Jesus’ time, His words meant far more, and His opposers understood exactly what He was saying. To them, it was blasphemy worthy of death.

We meet at Christ Church on the corner of Brent Street and Heriot Road in Hendon (NW4) at 8:45 pm Sundays. Nearest Tube: Hendon Central.

The angel Gabriel told Mary that her baby would be “the Son of God” (Lk.1:35) John the Baptist also bore record of Jesus’ divinity (Jn.1:34), **but Jesus Himself clearly demonstrated His divinity time and time again in His words and works.** One of the most compelling examples of this which is relevant to the subject of this article is when Jesus heals the paralysed man (see Matt.9:6; Mk. 2:10; Lk. 5:24). The Jewish opposers rightly claimed that no one but God has power to forgive sin, yet **Jesus declares and then proves He has this power belonging only to God.** Jesus directly connected the healing of the man with His own personal power and authority to forgive the sins of anyone who comes to Him.

Further clear and stunning evidence from Jesus’ own mouth is seen in the wonderful story of the man born blind (see **John 9**. This is tremendous!) After the Jewish religious leaders who hated and opposed Jesus had cast this young man out of the synagogue, the Bible says, “*35 ¶ Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, ‘Do you believe in the Son of God?’ 36 He answered and said, ‘Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?’ 37 And Jesus said to him, ‘You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.’ 38 Then he said, ‘Lord, I believe!’ And he worshiped Him. 39 ¶ And Jesus said, ‘For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.’ 40 Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, ‘Are we blind also?’ 41 Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.’” (John 9:35-41).*

People argue, saying 1) Mark and Luke were second-hand sources, and 2) all “priests” have power on earth to forgive sins, as implied by Jesus’ words in Jn. 20:23 cf Matt.16:19, and 3) Jesus was “the son of God,” but was *created*, 4) that we are all “gods” [Jn.10:34, meaning “judges” or “magistrates”], and on and on they go, disagreeing among themselves, but agreed in one thing: demote Jesus Christ from the High position rightly given to Him alone! Please don’t resort to clever dodging. **The evidence is on the table. Please accept it.** “*Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!*” (Ps. 34:8). **Come and eat, and there is plenty more in the cupboard!**