





## Mark 3:20-35

20 Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. 21 And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

## Mark 3:20-35

22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” 23 And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

## Mark 3:20-35

25 And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. 26 And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. 27 But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

## Mark 3:20-35

28 “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— 30 for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

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## Mark 3:20-35

31 And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. 32 And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you." 33 And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" 34 And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."



# Two Errors from Two Sources

v. 21 - "He is out of his mind."

v. 22 - "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons."

# Jesus Replies

23 And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. 26 And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end.

# A Brief Theology of Satan

- Genesis 3 – The Tempter
- Job 1 – Powerful, with a limit
- John 8:44 – The Father of Lies
- Eph. 2:1-3, 2 Cor. 4:4: Blinds & Enslaves
- 1 Peter 5:8 – Adversary, seeking to devour
- Revelation 20:10 – Finally Defeated

# The Binder of the Strong Man

27 But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

# Blasphemy of the Spirit?

28 “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— 30 for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

One has cut oneself off from what might lead to repentance. The sworn enemies of Jesus have shut their eyes to the truth. They say good is evil in order to turn others away from Jesus, to preserve their own authority, and to resist becoming disciples. God is willing to forgive even this sin, but they have willfully shut themselves off from God's forgiveness. It is not a single action but a continual state of spurning the Spirit's work.

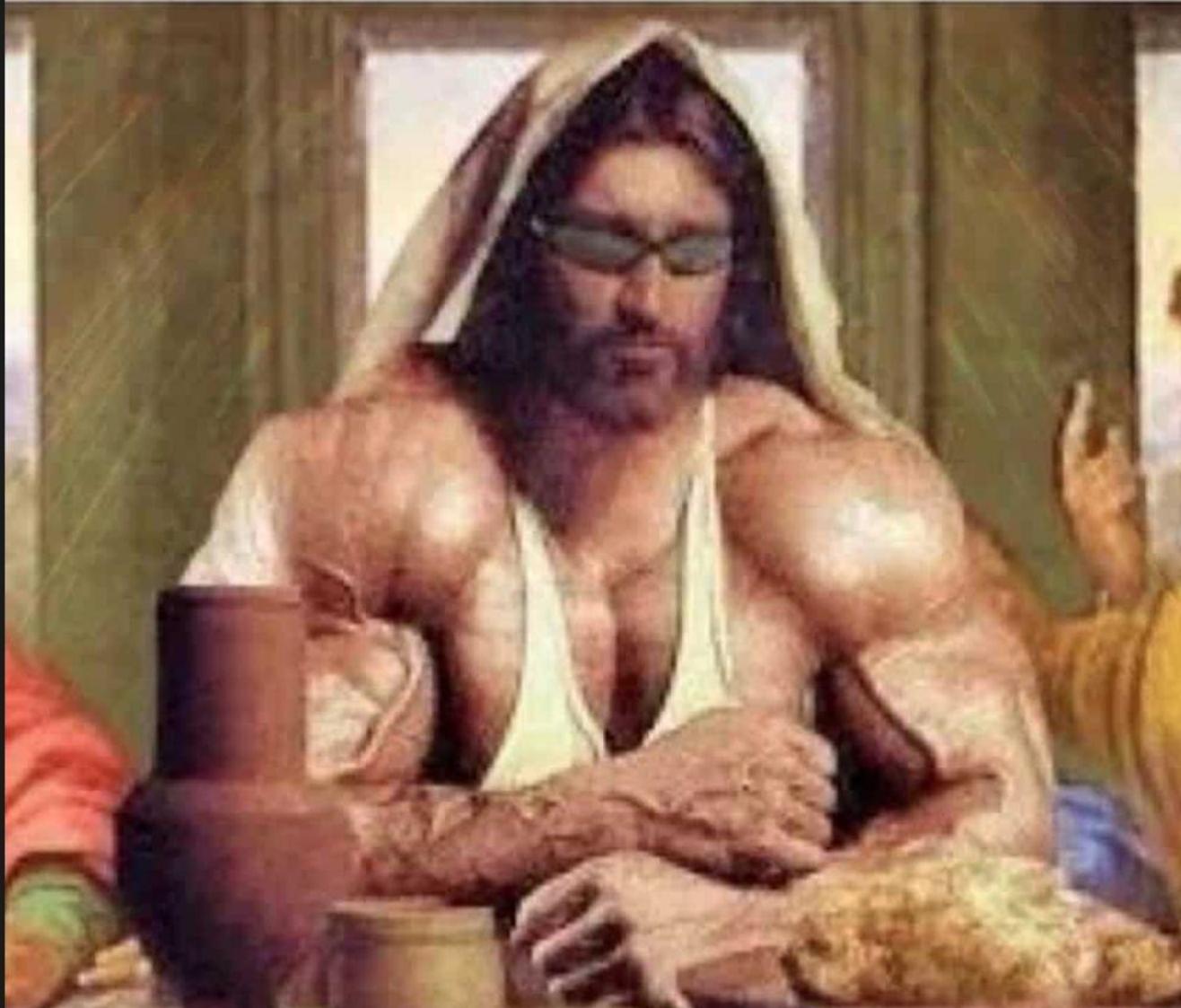
# Three Truths from Jesus

1. The Devil (and sin) are coming to an end
2. \*All sins will be forgiven
3. God is building a *new* family

# Plunder Time

27 But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

Guy: Bro do you even lift?  
Me: Yah Bro, I lift people's spirits



If Jesus does not work by Satan's power, however, another explanation is at hand: that a stronger one has bound the strong man and is pillaging his house. What is happening is not the result of a civil war within Satan's ranks but a direct onslaught from outside. This parable is an allegory. The strong one is Satan. His house is his domain, the present world, which he seeks to hold secure. His vessels are those hapless victims whom he has taken captive. The stronger one is Jesus, who has come from God, invaded Satan's stronghold, and bound him.

# All Sins Will Be Forgiven

28 “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter

Since this passage has caused so many such unnecessary anguish, one wisely stresses that the love, grace, and patience of God are never exhausted by our abundant sinfulness: "Whoever comes to me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). The gospel proclaims that God forgives what may seem to us to be unforgivable.



# God's New Family

32 And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you." 33 And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" 34 And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

# The Work of God

Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”

(John 6:28–29 ESV)

If you're scared that Christianity will take your power, autonomy, and freedom away from you, then know this: You've never had any power or control in the first place. Your navel is proof of that. You didn't come into this world by your own will, and it's worked the same every day since. Christianity is no straitjacket out to bind you, because you've been sacrificed for and now have ultimate freedom — a kind of freedom you could only hope for against your wildest imagining.

“God for the Skeptic: Christianity Is Not A Straitjacket,” Ken Sundet Jones, <https://mbird.com/bible/god-for-the-skeptic/>

Christianity isn't some nanny who wags a scolding finger at you and restricts all your fun. Christianity is a sharp knife to slice through what binds you. It says, "Yup. You're free. Wrap up in the skin of the Lamb of God and then look around you. What do you want to do with all your freedom? Whom might you love, given that you're released from having to think about yourself until it makes you sick?

## Galatians 4:4-7 (NIV)

4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. 6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." 7 So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

# BECAUSE FAMILY



# The Family of God

1. Has a Unique Identity
2. Is United by Something Greater
3. Involves the Whole Person
4. Has a Shared Purpose



# Gospel Response

***Start:*** Stop resisting God's offer of grace and be accepted into his family through Jesus today.

***Strengthen:***

The man on the middle cross said you can come into God's family. Let that cross and that family define you.