

**Kingdoms in Conflict, Part 1:
The Spiritual Hierarchy at Odds with the Kingdom of God
Matthew 12:22-37
Outline**

Introduction: The kingdom of God is constantly under siege by the counterfeit kingdom of Satan and the ungodly world system. Today we will explore the first in a two part sermon on how the kingdom of God is in conflict with the kingdoms of Satan and this present world.

Four basic facts you need to know about the conflict between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan:

1. It is a spiritual battle waged in the invisible realm with profound visible worldwide impact.
Ephesians 6:12
2. The evil commander of the counterfeit kingdom of darkness is Satan. *Isaiah 14:12-14*
3. The high stakes of this war are the eternal souls of men. *2 Corinthians 4:4*
4. The final outcome of this war is total victory and the complete conquest of evil and the evil one by Jesus Christ the King of kings. *Colossians 2:15*

The collision of the Kingdom of God and the Counterfeit Kingdom of Satan (*Matthew 12:22-28*)

1. The controversial healing - *vs. 22*
2. The blasphemous accusation - *vs. 24*
3. Jesus' brilliant answer - *vs. 25-28*
 - a. Jesus showed the Pharisees why they had just painted themselves into the corner of stupidity.
 - b. Jesus revealed to the Pharisees their corrupt bias and hypocrisy. *vs. 27*
 - c. Jesus shows the Pharisees that they are rebellious to Him as the King. *vs. 28*
 - d. Jesus illustrates the comparative power of God to Satan. *vs. 29*

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4. Jesus removed all middle ground in the spiritual battle. **vs. 30-32**
- a. What is the unforgivable sin? Who commits it? Why can it not be forgiven?
 - a. Jesus said that speaking against the “son of man” is forgivable.
 - b. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is related to the Holy Spirit’s work of revealing the truth about Jesus.
 - c. The person who says, “I don’t accept my need to repent of sin; I don’t believe that Jesus died, rose again and ascended back to heaven where He sits at the right hand of the throne of God and I don’t believe there is any final judgment where Satan and all who follow him will be judged,” has committed the unforgivable sin.

Conclusion: The relationship you have **with** God when you enter eternity is the relationship you will have with God **for** eternity.