

Christ Apostolic Miracle Ministry Sunday School

Week 26: June 30th, 2024

Topic: Blasphemy is rampant in the world – Part 5

Bible Reading: 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Misconception of blasphemy

The opinion of many people in the world concerning blasphemy is incorrect; because they lack knowledge. The majority of the populace of the world are novice, and they do not know the meaning of blasphemy. Anyone who lacks heavenly wisdom and understanding will not have a clear view of blasphemy. The misinterpretation of the scripture and faulty thinking, can also lead to the misconception of blasphemy. Though ignorance is the major cause of misconception of blasphemy; however, many knowledgeable people are using the façade of misconception of blasphemy to get back at their perceived foes, or take revenge.

Misconception due to ignorance: Jesus Christ was accused of blasphemy by certain scribes who are ignorant. Some scribes goofed, and accused the Lord Jesus Christ of blasphemy; because He told a paralyzed man who was brought to Him for healing that his sins were forgiven. Jesus made the statement when He saw the faith of the people around Him. Instead of saying you are healed, the Lord said, ‘Take heart my son; your sins are forgiven.’

The Bible substantiated this fact by saying, “Then, behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven.’ And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, ‘This man blasphemes!’” **Matthew 9:2-3.** The scribes accused Jesus Christ of blasphemy; because they lack knowledge of the scripture that Jesus has power to forgive sins.

In another instance, the high priest blamed Jesus for blasphemy due to lack of understanding which led to His crucifixion. The limited wisdom of the high priest made him declare the Lord Jesus Christ guilty of blasphemy, when He said, ‘Soon you will see the Son of man sitting at the right side of God in His heavenly kingdom, and He will return to this world on the clouds of heaven.’

Christ Apostolic Miracle Ministry Sunday School

The scripture chronicled this event by saying, “Jesus said to him, ‘It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.’ Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, ‘He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we need of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy!’” **Matthew 26:64-65.**

Accusation of Christ for claiming that He and His Father are one: Even the Jews intended to stone Jesus Christ; because they did not comprehend the scriptures. They wanted to stone the Lord; because He claimed that He and His heavenly Father are one in essence and nature. When Jesus asked them the reason why they wanted to stone Him, they replied that it is not because of His good deeds; but because of His blasphemous speech of claiming to be God.

The Jews are ignorant and they lack knowledge that Jesus Christ is one of the Trinity; which is an indivisible heavenly entity. One thing the Jews did not realize was that Jesus Christ cannot blaspheme Himself. The scripture corroborated this fact by saying, “I and My Father are one..... The Jews answered Him, saying, ‘For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.’” **John 10:30-33.** It must be noted that misconception made the Jews to accuse Jesus Christ of blasphemy.

Blasphemy as a guise for revenge

Many people in the world are using blasphemy as an excuse to get rid of their opponents, or adversaries, or rivals. Today, humans are using blasphemy as a guise to revenge, or retaliate on the people they despise for one reason or the other. Most people across the globe are killing the innocent by lying that they have committed blasphemous acts. In some parts of the world, people are being suppressed by the threat of false accusation of blasphemy, which can lead to death, or imprisonment.

Ahab used blasphemy to terminate Naboth’s life: King Ahab loved and wanted to buy Naboth’s vineyard; however, Naboth refused to sell the vineyard to the king. So, the queen arranged false witnesses who accused Naboth of blasphemy, and they stoned Naboth to death, which enabled the king to take possession of Naboth’s vineyard.

Christ Apostolic Miracle Ministry Sunday School

Though God penalized King Ahab and his wife Jezebel for their atrocities; but, Naboth's life was prematurely terminated using the guise of blasphemy. The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "And two men, scoundrels, came in and sat before him; and the scoundrels witnessed against him, against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying 'Naboth has blasphemed God and the King!' Then they took him outside the city and stoned him with stones, so that he died....." **1 Kings 21:13-16.**

Are you using blasphemy, or other charges as a guise to dispossess people of their inheritance? Have you ever used false witnesses to twist justice and achieve your aim? Are you using blasphemy as a guise to falsely accuse your opponents, or rivals, or people that you perceived as a threat? It is time to change.

People falsely accused Stephen of blasphemy: People who were not able to successfully withstand and cope with the heavenly wisdom bestowed on Stephen falsely accused him of blasphemy. The power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit with which Stephen spoke made some of the members of the Synagogue of the freedmen to envy and accused Stephen of blasphemy. Is jealousy making you wrongly accuse others? Are you envious of your subordinates who are stronger than you that you cannot refute their speeches?

Is desperation making you bribe men to allege/claim wrongdoing against your rivals? The scripture chronicled the event in the Book of Acts by saying, "..... They set up false witnesses who said, 'This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place and the law...'" **Acts 6:8-14.** Do you always envy people brimming with God's grace and energy? You need to know that there will be repercussions for all your nefarious activities; so repent.