Matthew 12:22-50 - "Meet Jesus: THE Son of Man"

INTRO: ***"THE" is an important word.*** *"a [THE] Man." "She's a [THE] girl". "A goat. THE GOAT." "situation" (Jersey). Office. Depression. Plague. Cross. Standard. Plank. Clap. Look. Talk.* **Transition**: We want to see Jesus as "***THE*** Son of Man".

THESIS: If you accept Jesus as THE Son & Savior of the World there is Forgiveness/Life.

I. UNBELIEVING (Repent. Trust. Accept.)

A. Believe that He is THE Son of Man. What does that mean? It means He's the ONE! THE GOAT. Daniel 7.

ILLUSTRATION: Not a common topic. Unknown significance of title. **Phil Collins.** HAHA. Not many worship songs deal with it. One of Jesus' preferred descriptions for Himself when talking about his claim as Messiah and Divinity = God-Man. *King. David. Judah. Lion. Lamb. God. Christ. Servant. Savior.*

B. They didn't believe and they refused to believe it.
C. They hardened their hearts toward Him.
D. He accuses them of Blasphemy when later they would accuse Him of Blasphemy. **Matt. 26:64-66**.
E. **Blasphemy against Holy Spirit.** Clear revelation of who Jesus is. Rejection of faith in Christ and repentance toward Him.
F. If you're asking if you have, strong evidence that you haven't. You wound't care.
G. It's only unforgivable sin, because its the only sin against the remedy Himself. Jesus. Gospel. Forgiven.
H. The Spirit bears witness about the Son. He testifies about Jesus in our hearts and convinces the world of sin, righteousness and judgment. To resist the Spirit is to reject Jesus and your need of Him.

APPLICATION:

1. **Deep concern for the lost.** Pity for those who don't know Jesus and are resistant and even hostile. Not judgy or disgusted, but genuinely saddened and grieved.
2. **Deep dependence on prayer** for true change and repentance and conversion. Only the Holy Spirit can convince and convert ppl. Our kids. Family. Friends. Neighbors. Church attendees. Those fading away. Drifting. Rejecting the light.
3. **Do you Believe in Him?** Have you repented of your sin? Are you resisting the truth of the gospel and the work of the Holy Spirit? Are you FOR Christ or ANTI-Christ. Only two realities. For Satan.
4. **But the Spirit (Root) of unbelief is still in us.** We have to wage war against that. Fight it. We can grieve the Spirit. Resist the Spirit. Quench the Spirit. Insult the Spirit. And Blaspheme the Spirit. He turned them over to their sin. Gave them over.
    1. **Resist** change/repentance, conviction/being wrong, self/assumption/comfort, love/people/serving, humility/sorry/"You're right.", Idols/Pride/Self-preservation, etc.
    2. Pharisee had already **made up their minds** about Jesus. The way it was. Not gonna change.

II. UNREGENERATE (Dead)

A. **Good Tree** = Good Fruit. Bad Tree = Bad Fruit. Dead Tree = No Fruit.
B. **ROOTED**. Inward Roots and Outward Branches & Fruit.
C. **Superficial Change.** Outward change. Therapeutic Change. Psychological change. Chemical Change. Hormonal Change. Neurological Change. Spiritual Change.

ILLUSTRATION: Nineveh and Queen of Sheba. They will condemn you. **Irony**. Role switch.

APPLICATION:

1. **You can change.** Your stage in sanctification is **not final or hopeless.** You'll never arrive here on earth. Intentionality. Filling with holy spirit and truth. Fill your mind and soul with Him.
2. **Fill Up with Spirit & Jesus.** FRUIT OF SPIRIT. Jesus. Joy. Love. Faith. Thanks. **PRAY for them.**
3. **Those who belong to Jesus are in the family.** Loved by him. To sin against them is to sin against him. "Saul. Why are you **persecuting me?"** He hurts. He's angered. Saddened. Welcome one another in the family. Experience the blessings of family. Spiritual Connection is more value than Biological connection. Wasn't rejecting family. But emphasizes privilege of being IN HIM. His Fam.

CONCLUSION: *Are you in the Family? "Will of my Father."*