



A TRANSFORMED

Life

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Transformed To Witness

Luke 12:8-12

A transformed witness knows and lives the truth of Christ.

1. A Witness Acknowledges Christ As The Son Of Man

Luke 12:8-9 ⁸ *“And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God,* ⁹ *but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God.*

“Son”

Wrong Views:

- “son” means born or created
- “son” is inferior or subordinate

Correct Views:

- “son” means “of the order of”
- “son” indicates equality, similarity and likeness
- “son” means “equal”

"Son of Man"

A Reference To:

- Christ's Deity (Mk 14:60-64)
- Representing Man (Ez 2, Mt 11:19; Mk 8:31)
- The Messiah (Dan 7:13)

“One like the Son of Man, coming with
the clouds of heaven!”

– Daniel 7:13

"Son of Man"

A Reference To:

- Christ's Deity (Mk 14:60-64)
- Representing Man (Ez 2, Mt 11:19; Mk 8:31)
- The Messiah (Dan 7:13)
- Divine Authority (Mt 9:6; 12:8; Lk 5:24; 6:5)
- Ascension & Glory (Mt 24:30; Mk 14:64; Acts 7:55-56; Heb 2:7; Rev 1:13)

2. A Witness Affirms The Holy Spirit In Christ's Ministry

Luke 12:10 ¹⁰ *And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.*

What Is Christ's Relationship With The Holy Spirit?

- Prophetically Anointed (Isa 11:1-2; 42:1; 61:1)
- Divinely Empowered (Is 42:1; Phil 2:7; Jn 3:34)
 - Preaching (Lk 4:18)
 - Miracles (Acts 10:38; Lk 4:18)
- Divinely Led (Mk 1:12; Lk 4:1)
- Intimate Joy (Lk 10:21)

Why Is Blaspheming The Holy Spirit Worse Than Blaspheming Christ?

- Prophetically Anointed (Isa 11:1-2; 42:1; 61:1)
- Divinely Empowered (Is 42:1; Phil 2:7; Jn 3:34)
 - Preaching (Lk 4:18)
 - Miracles (Acts 10:38; Lk 4:18)
- Divinely Led (Mk 1:12; Lk 4:1)
- Intimate Joy (Lk 10:21)

Q: Why is the “blasphemy of the Holy Spirit” so blasphemous?

A: The “blasphemy” is intensified because it is a triple attack on the three Persons in the Trinity:

- The Father is mistaken
- The Son is not the Messiah
- The Holy Spirit is the devil

“But when a man has become hardened, so that he has made up his mind not to pay any attention to the ...Spirit...he has placed himself on the road that lead to perdition....The **blasphemy against the Spirit** is the result of **gradual progress of sin**. **Grieving the Spirit** (Eph 4:30), if unrepented of, leads to **resisting the Spirit** (Acts 7:51), which if persisted in, develops into **quenching the Spirit** (1 Thess 5:19).”

– William Hendrickson, *The Gospel Of Matthew*

Q: Why is the “blaspheme of the Holy Spirit” so egregious?

A: Blaspheming the Holy Spirit is a progressive, knowledgeable, a deliberate defiance against God.

“The context indicates that Jesus is speaking about a sin that is not simply unbelief or rejection of Christ, but one that includes (1) a clear knowledge of who Christ is and of the power of the Holy Spirit working through him, (2) a willful rejection of the facts about Christ that his opponents knew to be true, and (3) slanderously attributing the work of the Holy Spirit in Christ to the power of Satan. In such a case the hardness of heart would be so great that any ordinary means of bringing a sinner to repentance would already have been rejected.”

– Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, p. 508

Q: Can the “blasphemy of the Holy Spirit” be done today?

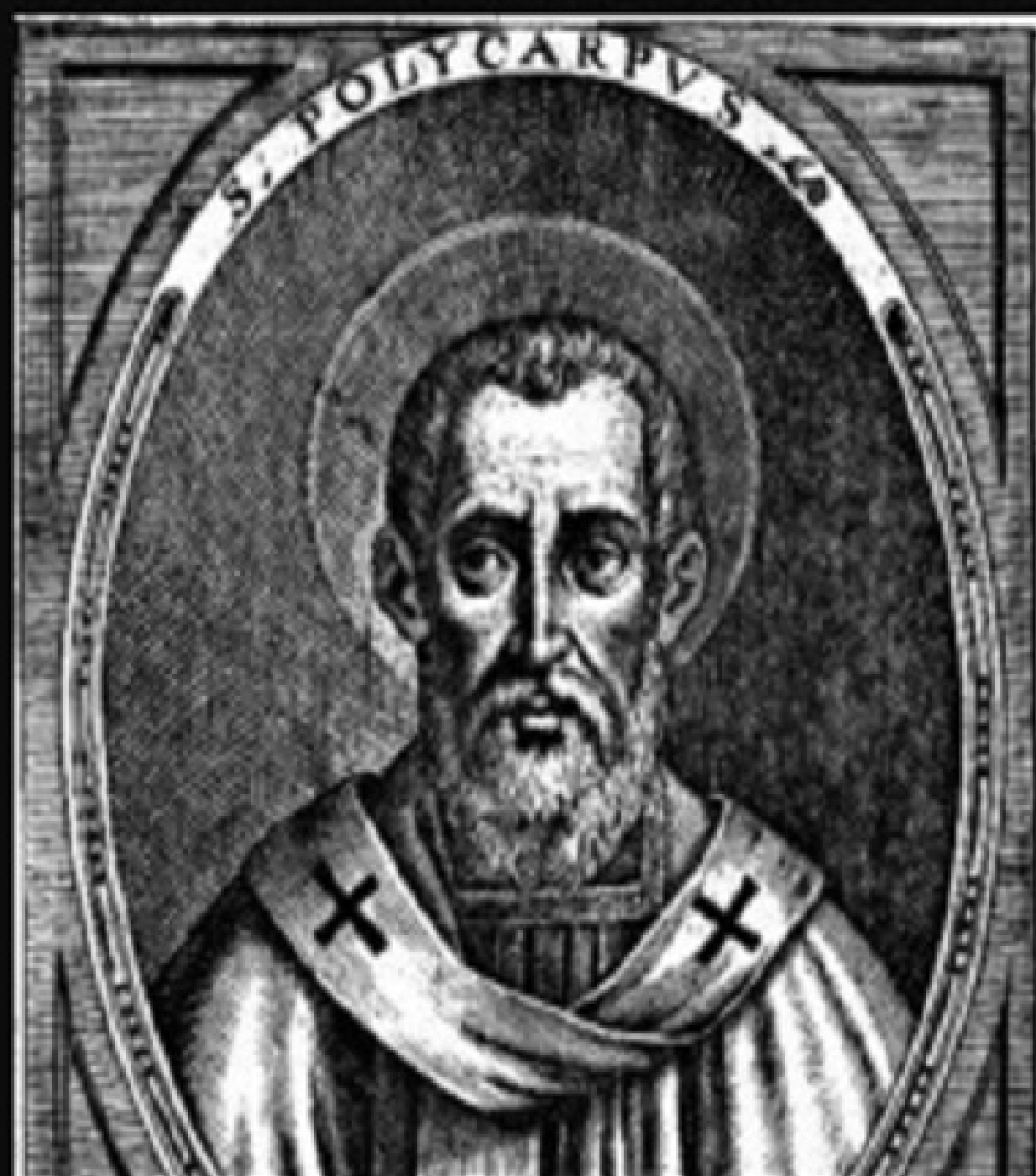
A: 4 views

- Unrepeatable today
- Possible today
- Unbelief that continues unto death
- Loss of salvation for apostate

3. A Witness Accesses The Strength And Teaching Of The Holy Spirit

Luke 12:11-12 ¹¹ *And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, ¹² for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.”*

Polycarp



Eighty and six years have I served Christ, nor has He ever done me any harm. How, then, could I blaspheme my King who saved Me?....I bless Thee for deigning me worthy of this day and this hour that I may be among Thy martyrs and drink the cup of my Lord Jesus Christ.



*"Unless I am convinced
by proofs from Scriptures
or by plain and clear
reasons and arguments,
I can and will not retract,
for it is neither safe nor
wise to do anything against
conscience. Here I stand.
I can do no other. God
help me. Amen!"*

*Martin Luther
(1483-1547)*

Conclusion: A transformed witness knows and lives the truth of Christ.

- Acknowledge Christ as God who became a Man to die on the cross defeating sin and rose again defeating death.
- You can't believe in Christ's sacrifice and deny His deity or humanity.
- You can't deny the Trinity.
- God will strengthen His witnesses emotionally and factually.