

Mt. 12:22-45 Jesus' attitude towards Demon and Satan

Q. 12, P. 20

Often the demons in a person cried out "You are the Son of God". In Paul's case "These men are servants of the most high God" - Always Jesus silenced the demons & rejected their testimony of who he was. Why? It was true.

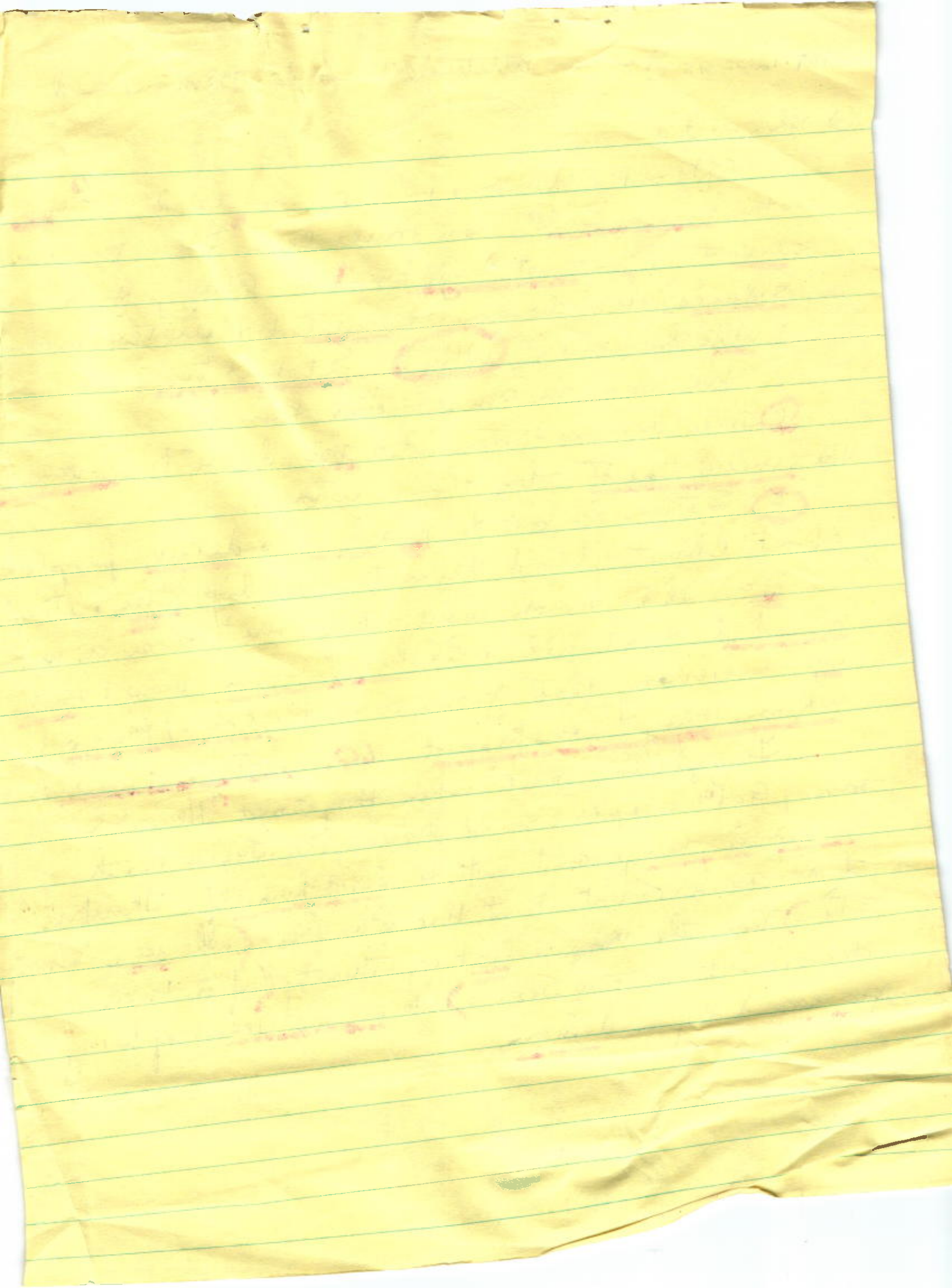
We can be sure of two things:

1. These demons & Satan did not desire to advance the cause of Christ by their witness.

2. Satan is out to mis-lead & deceive people about Christ & lead them to worship him instead.

So It is much more likely that these demons intended that all who heard them would end up believing that Jesus was the son of the god whom they worshipped.

So They planned that when they said "He is the Satan himself Son of God" people would associate Jesus with demonic beings and with the devil himself. Therefore it is no accident that the Pharisees (who were serving Satan) took the first opportunity (after their decision to destroy Jesus) to accuse Jesus of being possessed by a demon.



Q. 13, p. 20 What was the meaning of Jesus' reply to their accusation?

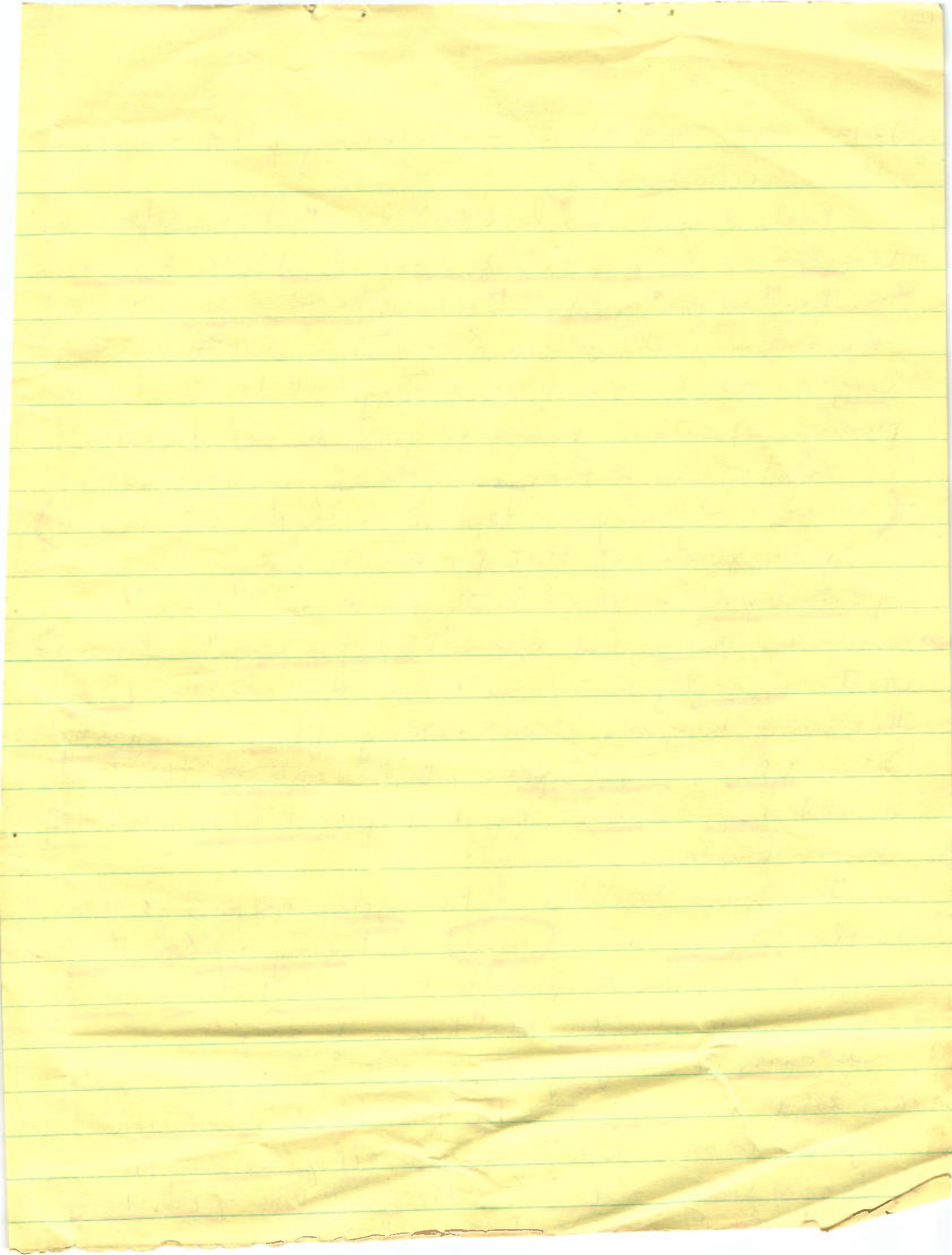
Beelzebub means "lord of the house" - it is a reference to satan as king of the underworld, head of the demonic "mafia" - the "godfather" who gives the orders to all the demons. The pharisees' accusation that Jesus was in league with demons + was casting out demons by the power of satan was a very clever ruse by satan.

But Jesus in the power of the H.S. was more clever - (as we can be if we depend on the H.S. not ourselves) Jesus points out that for him to cast out demons by satan's power would be to divide that "house" - remember Beelzebub means "lord of the house" - it would create anarchy in satan's house. He rules by fear the satanic kingdom knows nothing of love or loyalty. It is FEAR, abject fear which controls it. Satan would never permit this kind of revolutionary activity in his kingdom.

Then Jesus describes what is really happening: Jesus as the Stronger man binds the "strong man" Satan - and this made it possible to cast out the unclean spirits - to plunder the "house of satan" -

To "carry off" his property - is to release these <sup>whom</sup> Satan has held in captivity - I.E. this blind + dumb man.

Jesus is on earth to release all of humanity from the bondage of satan + death - the Great War of crushing the head of satan at the cross



## The sin against the Holy Spirit Mt. 12:31-32

"Therefore, I say to you blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven"

These men (pharisees) had not yet committed the unpardonable sin by saying that Jesus had an unclean spirit - otherwise Jesus would not have warned them. One who has blasphemed the spirit is beyond help. These men were heading that way & Jesus warned them.

It is the Spirit's responsibility to convict men of sin to declare and define the work of Jesus to lead men to believe on Jesus. So to reject the H.S., to blaspheme the H.S. is to reject the Spirit's witness of Christ.

So ultimately if there is a rejection of Christ there is no hope since there is no forgiveness other than the ground of believing in Christ's work on the Cross. If Jesus & His work for man on the Cross is ultimately & finally refused (and it is usually a process over a period of time) the result is there can be no forgiveness.

"No man comes unto the Father but by me"

(12)