They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and sores; yet they did not repent of their deeds.

The defining characteristic that distinguishes the children of God from the children of the devil is their response to God's Word. When confronted with the message of sin and its eternal consequences, the children of God respond immediately. They are moved to repentance, grieve over their sin, and sincerely turn away from it, as the people of Nineveh did. Similarly, when disciplined for their wrongdoing, they quickly recognize their faults and return to the Lord, just as David did.

In contrast, the children of the devil respond very differently. When warned about judgment, instead of repenting, they are the first to resist, often with great force. Instead of receiving the promise of eternal life with gratitude, they mock it. And when God allows consequences for their sin, blasphemy pours from their mouths. For example, a person living in sexual sin might suffer incurable consequences as a result; instead of repenting, he blames God and questions why God would allow such suffering, forgetting that these consequences stem from his own choices.

Similarly, when God pours out His final seven plagues on this earth, Scripture tells us that the remaining wicked will neither repent nor seek mercy. Instead, they will blaspheme God and curse His name.

## Revelation 16:8-11 (NKJV):

8 Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire.

9 And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.

10 Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain.

11 They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.

Do you see the pattern? The children of the serpent are revealed clearly. From the foundation of the world, they have been destined for judgment (see Revelation 13:8; 17:8). Like Satan and his demons today, they know they are guilty, and that the lake of fire awaits them, yet their hearts remain hardened. Instead, they continue to oppose God's work and blaspheme Him.

If the thought of judgment no longer moves or frightens you, then I must warn you: your spiritual state is grave. You show signs of falling into this group — the children of the devil. If calls to repentance sound like mere stories, and if when you are warned that Jesus stands at the door you dismiss it or mock it in your heart, then you are in great danger.

Jude 1:17-19 (NKJV):

17 But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ:

18 how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts.

19 These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.

Seeing more and more people like this confirms that we live in the last days. Soon, the Lord will return in the clouds with His holy ones to end such scoffing and human blasphemy.

Jude 1:14-15 (NKJV):

14 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints,

15 to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.

The day of judgment is coming. This world is deeply corrupted and time is short. Everything you see points toward the end. Do not be deceived by the apparent peace in the world; Scripture says that when people say "peace," sudden destruction will come, and they will not escape (1 Thessalonians 5:1-3).

Even if the world continues for two hundred more years, will you personally have that time? Life here is very short. If you continue to live in sin, seeking life apart from Christ, stop wasting time. If you refuse to hear the warnings about judgment and eternal consequences, a time will come when you will join the group that openly blasphemes God, the Creator. But what good will that do? Scripture says God cannot be mocked. You will die and be lost forever in the lake of fire.

Yet, you still have the power to turn away now. In this short time left, God wants to change your life, restore you, protect you, and give you the hope of eternal life. If you are ready today, God will forgive all your sins and blasphemies. All you must do is open your heart.

If you decide to surrender, your decision will be wise — one you will never regret. Find a quiet place, kneel, and pray this prayer in faith, knowing that God is near and hears you:

## **Prayer of Repentance:**

Father God, I come before You, acknowledging that I am a sinner who has committed many sins and deserve Your judgment. But You, Lord, are merciful and compassionate to those who love You. Today I ask for Your forgiveness and help. I repent of all my sins sincerely and with all my heart. I confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and He is the Savior of this world. I ask that the blood of Your holy Son cleanse me and make me a new creation beginning today and forever. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for receiving me and forgiving me. Amen.

After praying, confirm your repentance through action. Stop sinning and separate yourself from what displeases God. When God sees that you have truly turned from your deeds, He will accept your repentance, dwell in your heart forever, and transform your life. Seek a faithful church community, grow in God's Word, and receive baptism by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

## May God bless you abundantly.

	They Blasphemed God and Refused to Repent
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