

# Jesus' Last Sermon



Matthew 23

# Matthew 23

- There is hypocrisy in the world.
- There was hypocrisy among the Jews.
- There is hypocrisy in the Lord's church.
- **HYPOCRITE** – an actor, one who pretends to be someone they are not



# 1 – Denounce Scribes / Pharisees

- Matthew 23:1-7
- Sit on Moses' seat (in the place of Moses)
- They were teaching the Law of Moses
- Tell others to obey the law / but they don't
- We must observe and do

## 2 – What was wrong?

- Bind heavy burdens
- Do things “to be seen of men”
- Make broad their phylacteries
- Loved best seats
- Wanted to be called “Rabbi”



# 3 – Warning to disciples

- Don't be called “Rabbi”
  - Means – Master, Headmaster
- Call not one “Father”
  - Not physical father
  - Father – spiritual head, obey, honor
- Don't call yourselves “Teachers”

# 4 – Instructions to Disciples

## Be a servant of God

We don't need more teachers – preachers – elders or deacons.

We need more servants.

## Do not exalt yourself

Do the will of God without boasting

“Look what I did” is not humility

# 5 – Hypocrisy of Scribes / Pharisees

Hypocrite = play actor

Put on a mask and pretend to be another person

Play the role of some person they are not

They take away possessions of widows

Pretend to pray

Swear by the gold in the temple

Swear by the gift of the altar

Swear by heaven, God's Throne

Omit the weightier matters – justice, mercy, faith

# 5 – Hypocrisy of Scribes / Pharisees

They clean the outside, but not inside

Plates and bowls

Tombstones

Children of those who killed the prophets

Jesus calls them serpents (snakes)



# Conclusion

Jesus' final plea for them.

Matthew 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

# Conclusion

Matthew 23:39 “For I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' ”