

Matt 23:5-32 Week 77

Counterfeits and Curses (Part One)

Matt 23:5 "Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; 6 they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; 7 they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them 'Rabbi.' 8 "But you are not to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have only one Master and you are all brothers. 9 And do not call anyone on earth 'father,' for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. 10 Nor are you to be called 'teacher,' for you have one Teacher, the Christ. 11 The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. 13 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to. 14 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.

- Why do we today want to be approved by those in our world? The Pharisees did it for the _____ of man. We do it because of _____ before man.
- We learned two weeks ago that the false religious leaders are characterized by lack of _____ by the absence of a genuine desire to please God.

Such people, Jude says, are "worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit" Jude 19

- They follow their natural _____ and _____.
- The circumstances or the need of _____ controls their world-- not the Word of God controlling their lives.

John 3:18 He who believes in Him [who clings to, trusts in, relies on Him] is not judged [he who trusts in Him never comes up for judgment; for him there is no rejection, no condemnation--he incurs no damnation]; AMP

Rom 8:1 THEREFORE, [there is] now no condemnation (no adjudging guilty of wrong) for those who are in Christ Jesus, who live [and] walk not after the dictates of the flesh, but after the dictates of the Spirit.

Worldly Goals Dismissed by The Lord

- We as ministers need to remember that we are neither the _____ of truth, which is God's Word, nor the illumination of truth, which is God's _____.

- The false leaders _____ the same fleshly desire to elevate self. Why was this important to them???
- Mostly to show off their _____.
- That has got to be the goal of every believer: to not miss the opportunity to practice _____.

What Jesus Saw

Jesus denounces:

1. The hypocrisy of their _____.
 2. The hypocrisy of their _____.
- A prayer is measured not by its length but its _____.
 - The Lord has no use for prayers of those who used prayer as a cloak to cover their own _____ and greed.

What do we learn this week?

- Honor is given to man by God, when honor _____ God's glory.
- Advancement in God's eyes usually comes right after _____ and _____.
- Preaching and prayers must be _____ with God's truth.
- God's woes come after all of His teachings and truths have been _____.