



PURSUE: Women Pursuing Christ Through His Word
Fall 2024-2025
Lecture Notes
Matthew Lesson 23
March 18, 2025

“So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.” Matthew 23:28

I. Jesus denounces hypocrisy

- 1. _____ is a strong expression of judgment and lament in scripture.*
- 2. Hypocrites comes from the Greek word ‘hupokrites’ it means “acting” or “_____ a _____”.*
- 3. Hypocrisy is a form of _____ often characterized by a discrepancy between one’s public person and private conduct.*

II. Jesus exposes hypocrisy

- 1. “But they do all their deeds to be noticed by men;” Matthew 23:5 ~ Read Matthew 6:1 The Pharisees obeyed the scriptures to be _____ by others.*
- 2. The Pharisees _____ to be seen by others Matthew 6:5*
- 3. Pharisees served the poor to be seen by others.*
- 4. Pharisees wanted recognition and esteem from others:*
 - They loved the place of honor at banquets.*
 - They loved the chief seats in the synagogues.*
 - They loved respectful greetings in the marketplace.*
 - They were focused on man’s _____ not God’s _____.*
 - For a hypocrite it’s _____ to be seen.*

III. The dangers of hypocrisy

- 1. Self-righteous – dead on the inside*
- 2. It can lead to spiritual blindness and self-deception Luke 16:14-15*
- 3. Hypocrisy can have a _____ effect on the church and the broader community. Hypocrisy is dangerous because it undermines the integrity of one’s faith and witness.*
- 4. They say and do not do. “For they preach, but do not _____.” Matthew 23:3 ESV*
- 5. Guilty of pride and legalism*

_____ can lead to spiritual pride, as individuals may believe they are righteous based on their own efforts. It can result in _____ attitudes towards others who do not adhere to the same standards.

Legalism is forbidding what God permits and _____ what God does not. “For example, the rabbis converted the Sabbath from a day of rest to a wearisome observance of endless regulations.” - Edersheim

6. Consider Judas not just as the betrayer but as a hypocrite.

- Judas _____ Jesus perform miracles
- _____ His sermons
- _____ in His ministry
- Still, he made the choice to betray him Mark 14:10-11
- “Woe to that man!” Mark 14:21
- “Judas hypocrisy was so well disguised that the other disciples never suspected a thing!” Alistair Begg

The gospel is the answer!

“The righteousness God demands from us, he freely gives to us, not on the basis of our works, but on the basis of our faith. This is why Christianity is good news. It is God providing for us _____ what we can never provide for ourselves, namely a righteousness good enough to have God’s favor. God gives it to us freely if we will stop depending on ourselves and start trusting in Him.” John Piper