

Errors of The Pharisees v2

Hypocrisy

Introduction

- Hypocrisy was one of the Pharisees' greatest failings
- Often rebellious Christians justify not assembling to worship because the church is filled with hypocrites
- What is hypocrisy?
- How does it display itself?
- And, how can it be overcome?

2

Nature of hypocrisy

Mat 23:23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

Mat 23:24 "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

3

Nature of hypocrisy

Mat 23:25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence.

Mat 23:26 "You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.

4

Nature of hypocrisy

Mat 23:27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

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

5

Nature of hypocrisy

Mat 23:29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,

Mat 23:30 and say, 'If we had been *living* in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in *shedding* the blood of the prophets.'

6

Nature of hypocrisy

Mat 23:31 "So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

Mat 23:32 "Fill up, then, the measure *of the guilt* of your fathers.

Mat 23:33 "You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?

7

Nature of hypocrisy

- A hypocrite is someone who is one way on the outside and another way on the inside
- In public, he appears to be very religious but in private, at home, on the job, and in his mind, he is filled with wickedness
- In other words, he is an actor, a pretender
- His main concern is what others think of him rather than what God thinks of him

8

Cause of hypocrisy - pride

- Pride – trying to live by a self-righteous standard lifts Christians up
- Deeper than pride – wanting others to be proud of us and exalt us
- The hypocrite wants to appear to others outwardly as good without going to the trouble and effort of being good from within

9

Effect - superficial teaching focused on outward not inward

Mat 5:20 "For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses *that* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 5:21 "You have heard that the ancients were told, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.'

10

Effect - superficial teaching focused on outward not inward

Mat 5:22 "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty *enough to go* into the fiery hell.

11

Effect - superficial teaching focused on outward not inward

Mat 5:23 "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

Mat 5:24 leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

12

Effect - superficial teaching
focused on outward not inward

Mat 5:27 "You have heard that it was said,
'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY';
Mat 5:28 but I say to you that everyone who
looks at a woman with lust for her has
already committed adultery with her in his
heart.

13

Effect - shallow benevolence
seeking praise of men not God

Mat 6:1 "Beware of practicing your
righteousness before men to be noticed by
them; otherwise you have no reward with
your Father who is in heaven.
Mat 6:2 "So when you give to the poor, do
not sound a trumpet before you, as the
hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the
streets, so that they may be honored by
men. Truly I say to you, they have their
reward in full.

14

Effect - shallow benevolence
seeking praise of men not God

Mat 6:3 "But when you give to the poor, do
not let your left hand know what your right
hand is doing,
Mat 6:4 so that your giving will be in secret;
and your Father who sees *what is done* in
secret will reward you.

15

Effect - shallow prayer seeking
praise of men not God

Mat 6:5 "When you pray, you are not to be
like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and
pray in the synagogues and on the street
corners so that they may be seen by men.
Truly I say to you, they have their reward in
full.

16

Effect - shallow prayer seeking
praise of men not God

Mat 6:6 "But you, when you pray, go into
your inner room, close your door and pray to
your Father who is in secret, and your
Father who sees *what is done* in secret will
reward you.
Mat 6:7 "And when you are praying, do not
use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles
do, for they suppose that they will be heard
for their many words.

17

Effect - shallow prayer seeking
praise of men not God

Mat 6:8 "So do not be like them; for your
Father knows what you need before you ask
Him.

18

Effect - hypocritical judging in personal relationships

Joh 8:1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

Joh 8:2 Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and *began* to teach them.

19

Effect - hypocritical judging in personal relationships

Joh 8:3 The scribes and the Pharisees *brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center *of the court*,

Joh 8:4 they *said to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act.

Joh 8:5 "Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?"

20

Effect - hypocritical judging in personal relationships

Joh 8:6 They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground.

Joh 8:7 But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him *be the* first to throw a stone at her."

Joh 8:8 Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

21

Effect - hypocritical judging in personal relationships

Joh 8:9 When they heard it, they *began* to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the center *of the court*.

Joh 8:10 Straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?"

22

Effect - hypocritical judging in personal relationships

Joh 8:11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more."]

23

Effect - hypocritical judging in personal relationships

Lev 20:10 'If *there is* a man who commits adultery with another man's wife, one who commits adultery with his friend's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

24

Effect - hypocritical judging in personal relationships

Deu 17:6 "On the evidence of two witnesses or three witnesses, he who is to die shall be put to death; he shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness.

Deu 17:7 "The hand of the witnesses shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

25

Unacceptable cures for hypocrisy

1. Live as wickedly as we can
2. Pretend we are perfect, without sin

26

Cure for hypocrisy – sincerely obey God from the heart

Heb 10:22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

1Ti 1:5 But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

27

Cure for hypocrisy – sincerely obey God from the heart

2Ti 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Act 8:21 "You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God.

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

28