

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Hypocrisy"
Luke 11:37-54
Study-51

Hypocrisy – Greek word **Hypocrite** – "*to speak from underneath*" It was used of play actors that would put on masks and then speak from beneath the mask. An Act, playing a part, not real, but role playing. Not loving God, not holy!

Matthew 23 "The Seven Woes" Luke contains "Six"

Matthew 23:13 "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites,

Luke 9:51-19:27 The Rejection Of The Son Of Man

Luke 11 - Kingdom of God Versus The Kingdom Of Satan: Verses 27-28 Natural Family Versus Divine Family; Verses 29-36 Unbelief Versus Belief, Now - Verses 37-54 Religion Versus Relationship.

Thought Of Our Passage: "Hypocrisy Loves External Righteousness Which Neglects Internal Righteousness Brought Through Christ"

I want us to look at Six Marks Of Religious Hypocrisy:

Verses 39-44 (Three Marks) Hypocrisy of The Pharisees.

Verses 46-52 (Three Marks) Hypocrisy of The Lawyers (Scribes)

Luke 11:37 Now when He had spoken, Context - Jesus had been speaking to a large crowd of people. **Luke 11:29**

Pharisee – "*to separate, or separate one's*" Taken from common people, not wealthy like Sadducees. A year probation to see if they followed the law and traditions. **Mishnah** said, "*Tradition is a fence around the Law*" These were the conservatives of Jesus' day. This group went back to the time of the Babylonian captivity.

The problem with the Pharisees is not in what they believed and not even in what they hoped to do, but in what they actually became and did.

asked Him to have lunch with him; (Light meal)

and He went in, and reclined at the table. Jesus comes in **reclined** – "*to fall back or lie down*"

Luke 11:38 When the Pharisee saw it, Pharisee was watching and checking Jesus out.

he was surprised (*marvel to be astonished*) **that He had not first ceremonially washed before the meal.** This is not speaking about hygiene! **ceremonially washed** Not in the Law, the Bible, **Mark 7:1-5**

**The Error: of thinking that righteousness is merely external actions.
Minimizing the internal!**

Luke 11:39 "The Lord said," This is Jesus who is Lord that is speaking here.

"Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the platter; Jesus uses dinnerware to describe the religious externals, that is not the right focus.

but inside of you, you are full of robbery and wickedness. The heart is that which affects the outside. **Matthew 23:25-26**

Luke 11:40 "You foolish ones, The inner heart needs cleansing not just the outside. That the way to clean up a life is the inside out!
did not He who made the outside make the inside also?

2 Peter 2:22 Nature determines the actions!

Luke 11:41 Jesus is saying give the heart, surrender the heart to God and all else will fall into place.

This is so basic that **"The heart of the problem is the problem of the heart!"**

1. Verse 42 Hypocrisy In Miserable Giving:

Luke 11:42 "But woe to you Pharisees! The word **"woe"** is not so much a stinging rebuke as it is an *expression of grief; it is an expression of regret.* (Three Woes - Pharisees)

For you pay tithe of mint and rue and every kind of garden herb, some have cited the Pharisees for over giving to God. That is not what Jesus is saying here.

tithe – *"a tenth"* It is a principle that was taught to Israel in the OT; that as God blessed us, we were to respond by giving a tenth back to the Lord.

and yet disregard justice and the love of God; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. The problem was not in their giving but the things they failed to give.
When focusing on the trivial, we are apt to overlook the important!

1 John 3:17-18

justice and the love of God; Majored on the Minors!
Micah 6:8; Matthew 23:14

2. Verse 43 Hypocrisy In Miserable Pride:

Luke 11:43 For you love the chief seats in the synagogues,
The most important seats in the Synagogue were those in the front; In-fact they were not only in the front, but they were also facing the congregation.

**and the respectful greetings in the marketplaces. "Reputation is what people think we are; Character is what God knows we are."
Matthew 23:5-7; John 5:44**

3. Verse 44 Hypocrisy In Miserable Effect:

Luke 11:44 For you are like concealed tombs,
(Numbers 19:11-12, 16), graves were carefully marked (Whitewashed, yearly **Matthew 23:27**) Defiled for seven days if touched.

"Spiritual Contamination" unconsciously defiling and harming instead of helping.

and the people who walk over them are unaware of it." They don't recognize the defilement that is there.

Pharisees were devoid of the life of God!

Luke 11:45 lawyers – (Scribes) *"experts in the law" scribes,* they were the theologians, the seminary professors, the authors of the commentaries; they were the experts on Law, set the standards of the Law, and what it means.

It was their wrong interpretation of the Law that formed the whole false system of the Pharisees. Lawyers were members of the party of the Pharisees!

"Teacher, when You say this, You insult us too." Literally, *"If you are going to say that about the Pharisees you might as well say it about us!"*

4. Verse 46 Hypocrisy In Overloading:

Luke 11:46 But He said, "Woe to you lawyers as well! (Bravery of Jesus) (Three Woes - Lawyers) Lawyers pointed out other's sins now Jesus (God) points out theirs as the worst of all!

For you weigh men down with burdens hard to bear, lawyers devised 6000 laws to protect the Scriptures. Weighed people down!The keeping of the Sabbath – they had 39 classifications defining what labor was.

while you yourselves will not even touch the burdens with one of your fingers. There was no instruction on how to apply, how to grow! Lawyers knew the loopholes!

2 Corinthians 11:20

**Jesus accuses them of taking all the joy out of living for God
Matthew 11:28**

5. Verses 47-51 Hypocrisy In Memorializing:

Luke 11:47 "Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, Who Killed Them? How quick we are to forget! How blind we are to our sin. Barclay, "The only prophets they admired were dead."

Luke 11:48 Church history is some of the bloodiest of history. The Crusades consisted of murdering, in the name of the Lord.

They rejected the message of the prophets! **They felt that a dead prophet is a good prophet!** They always resisted the Word!

Luke 11:49 the wisdom of God said, Scripture, **Proverbs 8,** Jesus is Wisdom!

Luke 11:50 66-73 AD bloody holocaust. John the Baptist was hated!

Luke 11:51 blood of Abel The very first Prophet/Martyr in the Bible; Killed by his own brother for loving and serving God. Abel witnessed for God, hated for his righteousness! **Genesis 4:8**

to the blood of Zechariah, Last of the OT history and Hebrew cannon **2 Chronicles 24:21**

I tell you, it shall be charged against this generation.' (They created the environment for the hatred of God and His message)

6. Verse 52 Hypocrisy In Deprivation:

Luke 11:52 For you have taken away the key of knowledge; What key is that? They had reduced a relationship with God to mere externals and had taken away the heart of faith, love, and devotion. (Know and copy Scripture, lost)

you yourselves did not enter, and you hindered those who were entering."

These men did not really understand God's Word but were the teachers.

Jesus is the key: When we leave Him out, we fail to learn and grow. Yielded heart and an obedient will.

Luke 11:53 began to be very hostile and to question Him closely on many subjects, Now the atmosphere (anger) has really changed. The line has been drawn.

Luke 11:54 The word **catch** – used "*hunting wild beasts*"

Application:

1. Do I Major On The Minors?
2. Am I Preoccupied With Being Noticed?
3. Do I Make Others Worse And Not Better?
4. Do I Produce Burdens Or Blessings?
5. Are My Works Monuments To My Guilt?
6. Does My Life Make It Harder For Others To Find Truth?