

**Series "Behold Your King"  
"Humble and Proud Of It"  
Matthew 23:1-12  
Part-99**

Matt 15:7; 16:5-12

- 1. Verses 1-3 – False Concept of Righteousness**
- 2. Verse 4 – False Concept of Ministry**
- 3. Verses 5-12 – False Concept of Greatness**

**1. Verses 1-3 – False Concept of Righteousness:**

Matt 22:46

Luke 20:46

Beware of the scribes - "be on the lookout; to discern mentally; observe, perceive, discover"

Matt 23:2

Scribes – Also known as lawyers, experts of the law

The Pharisees – the name "Pharisees" came from a word that means "to separate."

Matt 23:3

Therefore all that they tell you, do and observe – "In so far as these Scribes and Pharisees have taught you the great principles of the Law which Moses received from God, you must obey them."

3 John 11

Psalms 51:6

**2. Verse 4 – False Concept of Ministry:**

Indifferent to the needs of others - but they themselves are unwilling to move them with so much as a finger.

Matt 11:28-30

### **3. Verses 5-12 – False Concept of Greatness:**

Verses 5-7 – Greatness of Man:

Matt 6:1

Giving - Matt 6:2

Praying - Matt 6:5

Fasting - Matt 6:16

Jesus selects certain actions and customs in which the Pharisees put on their display.

Phylacteries – Ex 13:1-10; 11-16; Deut 6:4-9; 11:13-21

Number 15:37-40

Lesson here is - they confused cloths for character.

Matt 23:6

Loved Pre-eminence: "And they love the place of honor at banquets,

Matt 23:7

Lesson here is - They confused respect and honor for a mark of greatness:

John 5:44

Wanted God's Titles: and being called by men, Rabbi - "My great one!"

Lesson here is - They confused a title with being the same thing as one's character.

Matt 23:8

Verses 8-12 – Greatness of God:

Matt 23:9

Pharisees claimed greater respect than that which was given to parents, for they said "a man's parents give him ordinary, physical life, but a man's teacher gives him eternal life."

Matt 23:10

Leader or master means "one who goes before and guides." Perhaps a modern equivalent would be "the authority."

Verses 11-12 – The character of those that follow Jesus:

**Application:**

1. "False religion is one that extols the virtues of man"; man is center
2. "False religion exalts man to the position of being capable of saving himself"; must do something
3. "False religion produces men that are prideful in heart"; look what I did
4. "False religion is opposed by God, because God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble"