

Matthew 23

King James Version (KJV)

23 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,

² Saying The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: (Moses was the intercessor between God and Israel. He was also the lawgiver. God performed miracles through Moses)

NOTE: (The scribes and Pharisees claim high office, like Moses had. Yet they do nothing to serve God. They serve themselves, at the expense of the people. They are corrupt to the core. They will prove it when they have Jesus murdered at the hands of the Romans)

³ All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. (They don't even do what they preach. They are all talk and no action)

⁴ For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. (They use guilt trips, tithes, etc to con people out of their money. They place financial burdens on the people and give nothing in return; except guilt trips)

NOTE: (We see the same today with so many corrupt preachers. They are nothing but con men)

⁵ But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, (They try to look holy and important with fancy robes and beautiful temples. It's all a show for the people. Their aim is for money and status)

(Look at the priests and ministers today. They do the same thing)

⁶ And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, (The upper rooms of the temple were reserved for VIPs)

⁷ And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi. (Rabbi = master)

⁸ But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. (Only God is greater than men. Men are all equal in God's eyes. Reverence only God; do not reverence any man)

NOTE: (That lesson was quickly forgotten by all the Rabbis, priests and ministers today)

⁹ And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. (Catholics do this. They address priests as father)

¹⁰ Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ. (Jews do this <Rabbi>. Christians call preachers "reverend". All Judeo/Christian denominations are guilty of doing this. Only God is Reverend. HE is the Father)

¹¹ But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. (A pastor or a preacher is supposed to serve the people, not lord over them)

(Jesus <God with us> is the greatest of all flesh men. And He came to serve us; to buy our salvation by dying for our sins)

¹² And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. (God loves the humble ones and abases the ego maniacs)

(The 8 Woes – to balance the 8 beatitudes)

¹³ But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in. (hypocrites = play actors)

(Their false teachings stop people from learning the truth in God's Word. Therefore they actually hinder people from receiving salvation)

¹⁴ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. (They do it with tithes and corbin. They use any means to get the money away from the people)

(Corbin – a gift to the church)

¹⁵ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. (You travel to convert one person. But then you teach him your false doctrines. You end up driving him right to Satan; not to God. That is worse than not teaching them anything at all)

¹⁶ Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! (If a person takes an oath to God, they don't consider it binding. If a person takes an oath to contribute money to the temple, then they consider it binding; because they want your money. They're all about getting money from the people)

¹⁷ Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? (Donations were only intended to keep the temple operating. They were never intended to make the priests rich)

¹⁸ And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty. (He is bound to his oath – by the corrupt priests; not by God)

¹⁹ Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift? (The altar of God is the greater. Also a gift can only be given willingly; not coerced by some preacher)

(These priests care more about the gift than the altar. They are in it for the money that they receive – the gift)

²⁰ Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, sweareth by it, and by all things thereon. (It is better not to swear by God's altar. But if you do, then this verse applies)

²¹ And whoso shall swear by the Temple, sweareth by it, and by him that dwelleth therein. (This Temple is the Holy of holies. They would be swearing by God Himself)

²² And he that shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon. (It is better to just tell the truth, than to be taking oaths by God. An oath can tangle you up in something that you said in the heat of the moment. It's not a good idea)

²³ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. (All play actors - they make big fancy sacrifices to God, for appearances. And yet they don't have any faith in God; and they treat the people badly)

(They are breaking the two great commandments that Jesus stated – love God above all; love your neighbor as yourself)

²⁴ Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel. (People used to strain wine to keep the gnats out. They find the smallest errors in other people and they overlook the great errors in themselves. They are supposed to be guiding people to spirituality. But instead, they guide them to sin)

(They follow the least significant rituals, invented by men; but they do not practice the Ten Commandments which are the law – the most important)

²⁵ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. (They are clean and polished on the outside; and corrupt on the inside. They look good and holy on the outside, but inside they have no love for God. They only care about themselves)

²⁶ Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. (Start by repenting for your sins and by obeying God's laws. Drop the ego and repent to save your soul)

²⁷ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whitened sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. (sepulchers = burial places, tombs)

NOTE: (I saw the same thing in a certain communist country. The higher ups deck out their gigantic tombstones with pictures and other ornaments. And yet, these were men who were atheists and rulers of an evil state. They punished and executed numerous people who were Orthodox Christians and who refused to bow to communism. Their fancy tombs won't buy them anything in the afterlife. It's all idiocy)

²⁸ Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. (God sees how you look on the inside. HE can read your mind. HE knows your intentions)

²⁹ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, (They murdered the righteous. Now, they will murder Jesus)

³⁰ And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. (They claim that they would not have harmed the prophets; and yet, these

hypocrites are planning to kill Jesus – the Prophet of prophets – God with us - Immanuel) Isaiah-7:14

³¹ Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. (These guys are Kenites)

³² Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. (Like father, like son; their patriarch was Cain – a murderer)

³³ Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? (generation = offspring, progeny – bad translation) (Cain's father was Satan <the serpent>, his mother was Eve) see John-8:44-46, Revelation-2:9, Revelation-3:9-10, Revelation-12:7-9

NOTE: (And yet, if these Kenites repented and got right with God, they would be forgiven. We all make our own destiny)

³⁴ Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: (The Kenites are rotten to the core, just like their father, Cain; just like his father, Satan)

(The Kenites have been persecuting and murdering prophets from the beginning. In the end days, they will persecute the Elect who will testify for God, before the whole world)

³⁵ That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. (They will pay for their evil deeds)

³⁶ Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. (generation = ancestry, progeny, descendants; the Kenite bloodline, from Cain to the end)

³⁷ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killst the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! (If the Kenites had repented and chose God instead of Satan, God would have taken them in and protected them. But they refused God. It was their choice that will damn them)

(The Israelites spent their time listening to Kenite priests, instead of learning the true Word of God. Even today, Christians are taught traditions of men instead of learning the Word of God)

³⁸ Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. (That is because Israel allowed the Kenites to infiltrate the 12 tribes. They corrupted and perverted the faith that God gave them)

See Daniel-9:27 (Satan is the desolator)

³⁹ For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. (After Jesus ascends, He won't be seen again until the Second Advent)