

THESE OUGHT YE TO HAVE DONE

MATTHEW 23:13-33; LUKE 11:37-44

Text: Matt 23:23, Luke 11:42

(Matthew 23:23) "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."

(Luke 11:42) "But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

Introduction:

We have here in these passages of scripture the Lord himself issuing an ought to a group known as the Scribes and the Pharisees.

The Lord also referred to them also as hypocrites. Notice the characteristics of such an individual.

- He is more concerned about traditions of men than the truth of God.

(Luke 11:38) "And when the Pharisee saw it, he marvelled that he had not first washed before dinner."

- He is more careful about outward than inward.

(Luke 11:39) "And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness."

- He is a stickler for trifles, and neglects the things which are indispensable.

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- He seeks self-glorification through his religious profession.

(Luke 11:43) "Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets."

- His real character is loathsome, although it appears not in the sight of men.

(Luke 11:44) "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over them are not aware of them."

Seeing that these characteristics are not honorable, let's see what we can learn from this passage as we take a closer look.

1. NORMAL ACTIVITIES

(Matthew 23:23) "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."

- A. Some think what is normally expected is enough.
- B. But there is more than just Normal Christianity.
- C. The normal is just the beginning.

2. NEGLECTED AREAS

(Isaiah 1:11-17) "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of

he goats. {12} When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts? {13} Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. {14} Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. {15} And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. {16} Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; {17} Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."

A. Spiritual matters were being neglected.

1. Judgment realizing that one day I'll stand before the Lord

a. Effects eternity. (Saved or lost)

b. Effects our rewards

2. Mercy Extending the same mercy that has been extended to us from God

3. Faith Believing all that God has to say concerning both areas.

3. NECESSARY ATTENTION

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A. Thought the normal is important, the neglected is necessary.

B. God is more concerned about our spiritual neglects than our normal spectacles.

Close:

Let's not be guilty of becoming performers, instead of practicers. Let's not neglect the important things, those spiritual matters in our lives. It too easy to look the part, and perform rather than practice.

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