Text: Matthew 23:1-39 | Monroe Bible Church
Topics: Humility, Hypocrisy, Judgment, Legalism | March 1, 2020
Series: The Promised King | Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl

Bad Examples

I. Humility Desired (1-12)

Don't follow examples of *hypocrisy* and *self-promotion*,
but rather, those of *humility* and *servanthood*.

II. Hypocrisy Denounced (13-36)

Beware of those who emphasize the *outward appearance* of spirituality while ignoring the *inner purity*.

III. History Decried (37-39)

Respond to God's gracious call to *repentance* and *faith* before the *coming judgment*.

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. What are some examples you of self-promotion. How is it received?

2. Jesus exposes the faulty conduct and motives of Israel's religious leaders (Matthew 23:1-7), but says to do what they say. How can this be right?

Can you think of an example of someone's instructions you needed to follow, but not their example? What was the result?

3. Jesus' teaching in Matthew 23:11-12 is pretty clear. How does this, and the immediate context, help define what He means in verses 8-10?

Think of a humble teacher or leader that you've had. Compare the impact they had on your life with the impact of the person in question #2 above.

4. In Matthew 23:13-36 Jesus is condemning the legalistic hypocrisy of the religious leaders. Can you think of a modern-day example of legalistic hypocrisy today?

Do you have experience with legalism (i.e. you were once in it, tempted by it, or felt compelled to observe it)? How did you respond?

What was the effect on your spiritual life? Did you see any hypocrisy?

5. In Matthew 23:37-39 Israel is denounced for rejecting God's calls to repentance. What does Jesus tell them will be the result?

Can you give an example of a time when you were unwilling to submit to the will of God? What happened?

6. How does our understanding of the grace of God in Christ help us when we encounter hypocrisy, legalism, or rebelliousness in ourselves or others?

7. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon for you?

Gospel of Matthew
The Promised King

I. His Presentation (1-4)
- A. His Background (1)
- B. His Boyhood (2)
- C. His Baptism (3)
- D. His Beginnings (4)

II. His Preaching (5-7)
- A. Laws of His Kingdom
- B. Disciplines of His Kingdom
- C. Priorities of His Kingdom

III. His Power (8-9)
- A. His Power on Earth (8)
- B. His Power Over the Spiritual Realm (9)

IV. His Program (10-14)
- A. His Sending Out (10)
- B. His Speech for John, Cities, Stress (11)
- C. His Sabbath & Sign (12)
- D. His Seeds & Kingdom Parables (13)
- E. His Sadness, Serving & Storm (14)

V. His Prescriptions (15-20)
- A. For Clean Hands, a Canaanite, a Crowd's Hunger (15)
- B. Concerning Leven, a Leader's Confession, & Losing one's life (16)
- C. Concerning His Transfiguration, a Troubled Father, & Taxes (17)
- D. Concerning Childlike Greatness, Church Discipline, & Complete Forgiveness (18)
- E. Concerning Remarriage, a Rich Ruler, & Reward (19)
- F. Concerning Kingdom Gratitude & Greatness (20)

VI. His Provoking (21-23)
- A. The Temple, Tree, & Vineyard Talks
- B. The Wedding Parable & Wisdom When Tested
- C. The Woes given Religious Leaders