

The Leaven of the Pharisees

In Luke 12:1, we arguably see Jesus at his most popular yet! The crowds number up to ten thousand - and they are stepping all over each other trying to get within earshot of Jesus. In teaching this large crowd, Jesus develops a vision for living in light of present trouble (persecution and suffering) and future glory. He begins with a warning about the Pharisees.

1. The Danger of the Pharisees
 - a. Not their hostile actions (*Luke 11:53-54; 12:4,11*)
 - b. But rather their corrupting influence
 - c. A danger to spiritual leaders particularly!
2. The Hypocrisy of the Pharisees
 - a. Not simply 'play-acting'
 - b. But rather a rebellion against God himself
3. The Futility of Hypocrisy
 - a. Ultimately, there are no secrets
 - b. Who we truly are will be fully revealed

Application:

1. Are we on our guard against this kind of hypocrisy?
2. Are we committed to a life of repentance and faith that permanently changes how we view ourselves and others?
3. What will be said about and proclaimed from rooftops about you?