

“No More Pretending”
Worship 021223 *Matthew 23

Matthew 23:1-12

_____ of human reasoning
“selfish”

Assume authority not given - “sit on Moses’ seat,” 23:2

Matthew 23:1-12

_____ but do not practice - “so do and observe whatever they tell you,
but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice,” 23:3

Lay _____ on others impossible to keep - “they tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear,
and lay them on people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger,” 23:4

love attention of others - “they do all their deeds to be seen by others,” 23:5
“they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues,” 23:6
“and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others” 23:7

Common mistake – we put others down to raise ourselves up

Matthew 23:11-12

11 The greatest among you shall be your servant.
12 Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Jesus calls us to humility and repentance if we desire salvation

Matthew 23:13-36

Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites
hypocrite - ὑποκριτής – *hypokritēs*
professes to be good when he is aware that he is not

blind guides, blind fools, blind men, blind Pharisee
Matthew 23:13-16 (Isa. 6:9-10)

Common mistake – we think that we fool God and others but only we are fooled

Seven woes

1st Woe – _____ people from entering the kingdom of heaven, 23:13-14

2nd Woe – _____ converts by adding unnecessary burdens, 23:15

3rd Woe – made ridiculous oaths designed to break promises, 23:16-22

4th Woe – _____ justice, mercy and faithfulness while strictly tithing, 23:23-24

5th Woe – _____ moral outwardly but were sinful inwardly, 23:25-26

6th Woe – looked spiritually alive but were spiritually dead, 23:27-28

7th Woe – had murderous intentions towards God’s messengers as did their ancestors, 23:29-36

How do we see ourselves?
as saved or pretending to be saved

as a mature believer or pretending to be a mature believer

as generous or pretending to be generous

as caring about others or pretending to care about others

as living according to God’s Word or pretending to live according to God’s Word

as having all the answers or pretending to have all the answers

Fill in the blanks: Flaws, Preach, burdens, hindered, misled, neglected, appeared