

"Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, saying: 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, *that* observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay *them* on men's shoulders; but they *themselves* will not move them with one of their fingers.'" **Matthew 23:1-4**

"But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.' But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren."

Matthew 23:5-8

"Do not call anyone on earth your father;
for **One is your Father, He who is in heaven.**

And do not be called teachers; for **One is
your Teacher, the Christ.** But he who is
greatest among you shall be your servant.

And whoever exalts himself will be
humbled, and he who humbles himself will
be exalted." **Matthew 23:9-12**

- ~When Jesus entered Jerusalem the last week of His earthly life **Matt. 21:1-11**, He:
- ~cleansed the Temple **Matt. 21:12-17**
- ~ **cursed a fig tree** **Matt. 21:18-22**
- ~Jewish Leaders challenged His authority **Matt. 21:23-32**
- ~He pointed a parable at the chief priests & Pharisees **Matt. 21:33-46**
- ~He taught a parable about who is in the kingdom of heaven **Matt. 22:1-14**
- ~He silenced Pharisees' challenges **Matt. 22:15-46 (v. 22, 33, 46)**

Burdensome Religion **Matthew 23:1-12**

1. Pharisees Were Right Who:

(1 Sincerely Taught Moses

1) **Mathew 22:34-40=Mark 12:28-34**

- **Most Scribes were Pharisees**
- **Knew Jesus Rightly Elevated 2 Commands**
- **Wasn't far from entering God's new, non-Jewish, spiritual kingdom**

(2 Admitted Jesus' Miraculous Power

- **Nicodemus **John 3:1-2****
- **Other Pharisees **John 9:16****

(2 Wrong When They:

1) Say & Do Not Matt. 23:3

- **Definition of "Hypocrite" NOT Jesus Acts 1:1**
- **Practice of a Hypocrite Luke 6:41-42**

2) Add Heavy Burdens Matt. 23:4

- **Wisdom wrote Proverbs 30:5-6**
- **Now Moses' Law Acts 15:10**
- **Pharisees on Sabbath Ex. 20:8;**
Matt. 12:1-8 Disciples broke man-made
- **Religious Rituals For Jesus' Birth!**
Crèche, Cantata, 12 Days, Plays, etc.
- **Denomination Membership Cf Acts 2:38**

(2 Wrong When They:

3) Make Religion A Show Matt. 23:5-6

➤ **Matt. 6:1-18: Giving, Praying, Fasting**

➤ **Phylacteries=Scripture Boxes**

➤ **Garment Hems/Borders Num. 15:37-41**

➤ **Outer wear, High hats, Sleeve Stripes**

4) Seek Titles of Distinction Matt. 23:7-10

➤ **"Rabbi" (John 1:38; Heb. 5:12), All Brethren**

➤ **"Father" (Matt. 6:9; James 1:18) (Heb. 12:9)**

2. Christians Are Right Matt. 23:11-12

➤ **Saved to Serve, Not Be Served Matt. 20:28**

➤ **Romans 6:4, 17-18 – The Lord, NOT Men!**