

MATTHEW 23 vs 23

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²³ **Woe** / **how terrible it will be...** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites / those who wear a mask; those who conceal what is, while revealing what is not.

for you all pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin / What?! Jesus says, you act as if GOD is some legalistic, penny-pinching miser! No, He is different than all who live on earth. **People often ask**, is giving the tithe required in the New Testament. No! We can give more. It is mentioned in this confrontation of Jesus with scribes and Pharisees; and then the word is used 7 times only when talking about **our great father of faith: Abraham** -- **Hebrews 7**.



you pay tithe... and have omitted the weightier matters of the law **justice, mercy, and faith** / the weightier provisions of the law, are true justice, if you are going to err... err on mercy toward all; and faith -- because without faith, we are powerless to please God; Jesus says, these should not be neglected:



these you ought to have done, and not to leave the other **undone** / you pay the tithe, the 10% is done; don't leave the justice, mercy and faith undone.

²⁴ **You blind guides who strain out a gnat, and end up swallowing a camel.**

²⁵ **Woe** / **how terrible it will be...** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! / concealing what is, while revealing what is not.

for you wash the outside of the cup and platter, but within you are full of extortion and excess / you are rapacious, seizing by force; and without self-control.



²⁶ **Hey blind Pharisees** / who need an elementary lesson on basic dish washing, **first clean... what is within the cup and the platter; the outside of them will be clean also** / take care of the inside first. Can you imagine? The Lord of glory had to point out this basic cleansing process to us!

He continues...

²⁷ **Woe** / **how terrible it will be...** to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! concealing what is, while revealing what is not.

for you are like tombs painted with whitewash,



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which appear like a fantasy dream, on the outside beautiful, but within, you are full of dead men's bones, and all uncleanness / inside, you are full of death... and everything putrid.

²⁸ Even so you also outwardly appear / you painted tombs, that make you look like the living dead. outwardly you dreamers grandly appear... **righteous unto men, but within... you are full of it; full of hypocrisy... and injustice** / concealing what is, while revealing what is not.

²⁹ Woe / **how terrible it will be**... to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! / those wearing a mask; those who are 2-faced;

because you build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the tombs of the righteous / you decorate, and thereby acknowledge the rightness of our forefathers and prophets... who came before to warn God's people,



³⁰ And you say, If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would **not** have partnered... with them in shedding the blood of the prophets / Really?!

Their speech betrays them; they already gathered to plot the murder of Jesus, the Lord of glory.

³¹ **What is all this said for?** you are witnesses to yourselves that you are the children of those who murdered the prophets / you expose yourself and give evidence against yourself.

³² You fill up the measure of your fathers guilt / what your fathers began, you finish.

³³ You serpents, you generation of poisonous vipers / you snakes! **how will you escape the damnation of hell?**

³⁴ What is all this said for?

Look / pay attention, I send to you prophets, and wise men, and scribes / wise diviners, and educated leaders empowered by God: **some of them you will kill and crucify; some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute them from city to city** / you will beat up and bloody -- figuratively or literally... in your worship centers,

what church is this? Still going on today: and why is this going to happen?

³⁵ That on you comes the guilt of all righteous **blood shed on earth** / the guilt of all the slain prophets of God were put on these hypocritical, poisonous vipers... masked in sheep's clothing,

from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zacharias / from A to Z; from your first book to your last book!, **whom you all murdered between the temple and the altar.** – these grand dreamers were guilty of all their deaths

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³⁶ Truly / **AMEN!** I say to you / was Jesus watching each of those religious freaks?

All these things will arrive in this generation.

³⁷ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who **kills** the prophets, and stones them who are sent to you, how often I wanted to safely-gather your children, even as a mother hen safely-gathers her chicks under her wings, but you would not! / more than once He tried to gather His people

and listen closely to this condemnation given by Jesus the Messiah,

³⁸ Behold / pay attention,

your house / not My house; not My Father's house!

your house... is left to you desolate / your house is a wasteland. This temple was disowned by the Lord; no longer needed; consistent with the rejection of these religious clerics in their religious playground who concealed what is; while revealed what is not; a few days later, Jesus said to His followers something He had not told them until the night He was betrayed. He said: [in My Father's House are many dwelling places](#), if it wasn't so, I would have told you -- **John 14**.

And in this final public address, Jesus said...

³⁹ For I say to you,

From now on you will not see Me, until you say, Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

And did He shake the dust off His feet? We do not know. We do know... He left this pointless temple.

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