

The Burden of Hypocrisy
Matthew 23:1-12



FLOURISH
BIBLE STUDY

JAMES

WALKING IN WISDOM



LYDIA BROWNBACK

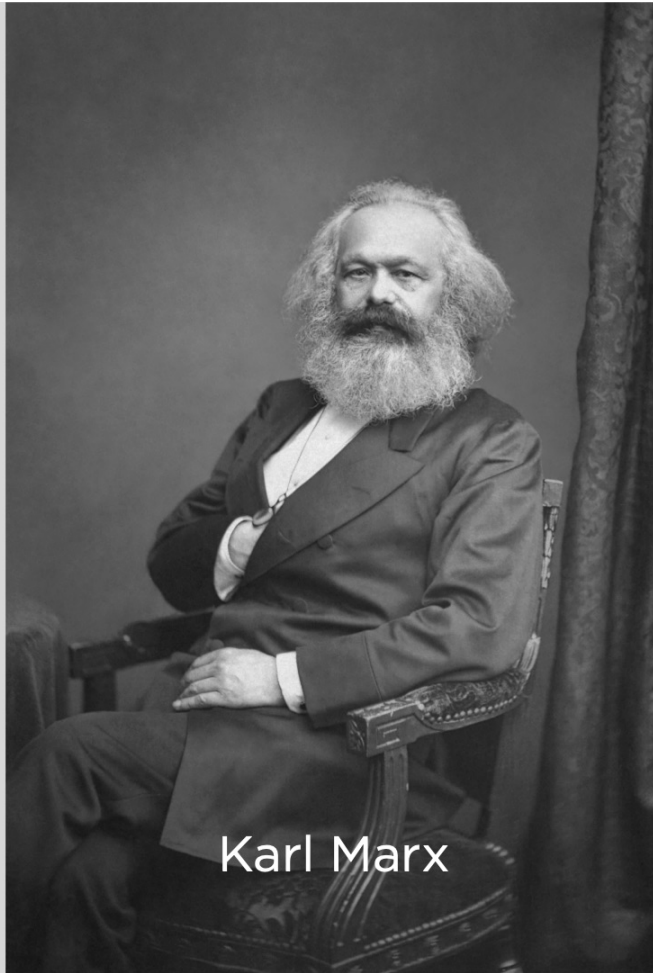
WOMEN'S BIBLE Study

BEGINS 9/15

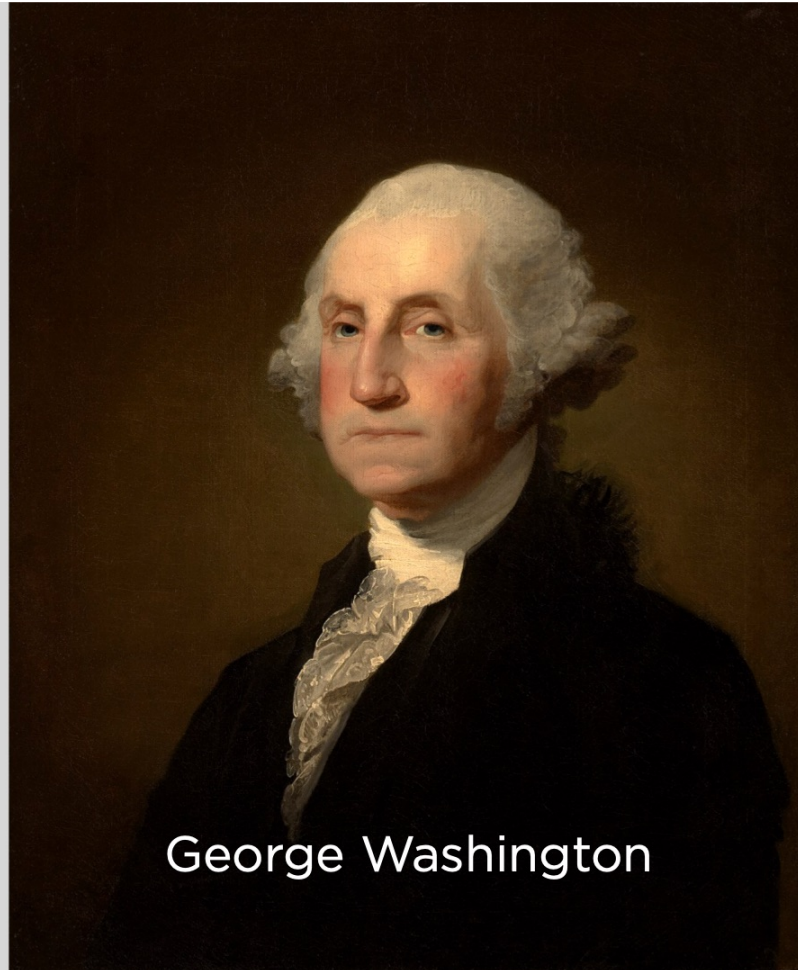
MORNING & EVENING
SESSIONS

“And let steadfastness have its full effect,
that you may be perfect and complete,
lacking in nothing”

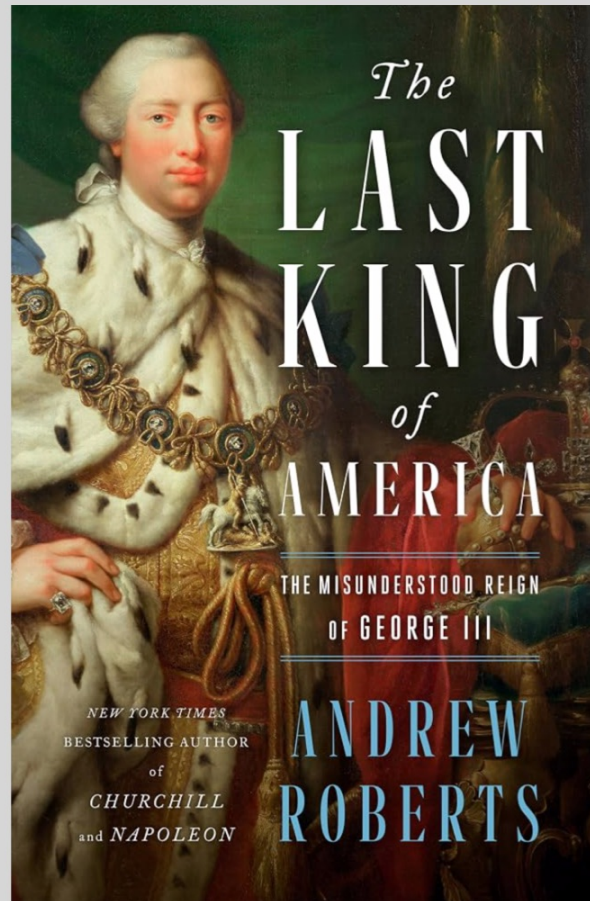
James 1:4



Karl Marx



George Washington

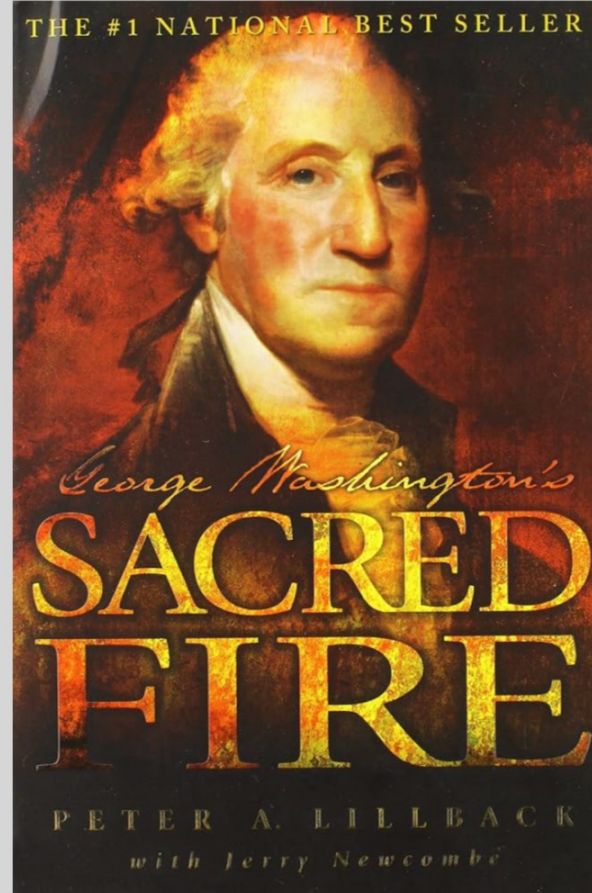


“Although in 1776 Washington had roused his soldiers with talk about fighting supposed ‘slavery’ in the political sense,

“when it came to actual slavery, the King had a far better record than the rebel.”

Andrew Roberts

THE #1 NATIONAL BEST SELLER



George Washington's
**SACRED
FIRE**

PETER A. LILLBACK
with Jerry Newcombe

As a child -

As a child -

As a young adult -

As a child -

As a young adult -

As an older adult -

“Slavery is wrong, and we must do something to end it.”

George Washington

As a child -

As a young adult -

As an older adult -

Upon his and Martha's death -

“Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples” (1)

Hypocrisy . . .

can't carry its own burdens. (1-12)

Hypocrisy . . .

can't carry its own burdens. (1-12)

can't see its own blindness. (13-26)

Hypocrisy . . .

can't carry its own burdens. (1-12)

can't see its own blindness. (13-26)

can't keep its own beauty. (27-36)

Hypocrisy . . .

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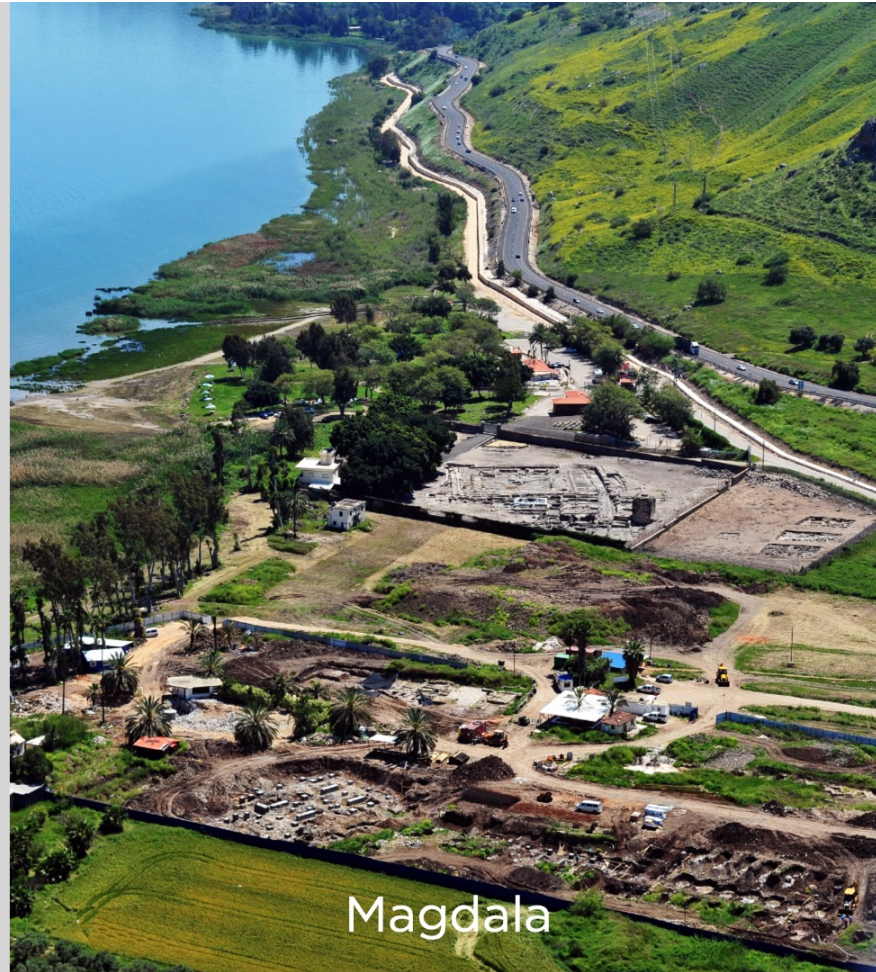
Jesus's heart for the hypocrite (37-39)

They . . .

1. assume **spiritual authority**. (2-3)

“The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat, so do and observe whatever **they** tell you, but not the works **they** do. For **they** preach, but do not practice.” (2-3)

Moses's seat could refer to . . .
a physical seat



Magdala





a menorah



a menorah
ritual water jars



a menorah
ritual water jars
pillars



a menorah
ritual water jars
pillars
palm trees



a menorah
ritual water jars
pillars
palm trees
floral designs

Moses's seat could refer to . . .

a physical seat

a **spiritual/legal** seat

“have risen up as a court over Israel [they]
are like to the court of Moses.”

Rosh Ha-Shana 2:9

They . . .

1. assume spiritual authority. (2-3)
2. lay **heavy burdens** on their people. (4)

“The laws of the Sabbath, festal offerings, and sacrilege – lo, they are like mountains hanging by a string, for they have little scripture for many laws.”

M.Hag 1:8

They . . .

1. assume spiritual authority. (2-3)
2. lay heavy burdens on their people. (4)
3. do their deeds **to be seen**. (5-7)

“They do all their deeds to be seen by others.
For they make their phylacteries broad
and their fringes long,

“and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others.” (5-7)

image - what they wear



broad phylacteries



broad phylacteries

“You shall bind them as a
sign on your hand, and they
shall be as frontlets
between your eyes.”

Deuteronomy 6:8



long fringes



long fringes

“The LORD said to Moses, ‘Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments



long fringes

“throughout their generations, and to put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner.

“And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the LORD, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to whore after.”

Numbers 15:37-39

image - what they wear

status - where they rank

image - what they wear

status - where they rank

- **honored** place - “they love the place of honor at feasts” (6a)

image - what they wear

status - where they rank

- honored place - “they love the place of honor at feasts” (6a)
- **best** seats -

image - what they wear

status - where they rank

titles - what they are called

public greetings

“greetings in the marketplaces” (7a)

public greetings

personal respect

“being called rabbi by others” (7b)

rabbi = my master, my teacher

You . . .

1. **practice** what you **preach**. (2-3)

You . . .

1. **practice** what you **preach**. (2-3)

“so do and observe whatever they tell you,
but not the works they do. For they preach,
but do not practice.” (3)

Possible interpretations:

irony (or sarcasm)

Possible interpretations:

irony (or sarcasm)

wisdom

“They preach, but do not practice.” (3c)

You . . .

2. don't seek **titles** or **confer them**
inappropriately. (8-10)

“But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers.

“And call no man your father on earth,
for you have one Father, who is in heaven.

“Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ.” (8-10)

“And he gave the apostles, the prophets,
the evangelists, the shepherds and
teachers, to equip the saints for the work of
ministry, for building up the body of Christ,”

Ephesians 4:11-12

“Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.”

1 Timothy 5:17

“Obey your leaders and submit to them . . .”

Hebrews 13:17a

You . . .

3. value **servanthood**. (11-12)

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

“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.” (4)

Why?

The difference between **fake** and **real**
worship

“Bel bows down; Nebo stoops;
their idols are on beasts and livestock;
these things you carry are borne
as burdens on weary beasts.”

Isaiah 46:1

“Listen to me, O house of Jacob,
all the remnant of the house of Israel,
who have been borne by me from before
your birth, carried from the womb;

“even to your old age I am he,
and to gray hairs I will carry you.
I have made, and I will bear;
I will carry and will save.”

Isaiah 46:3-4

The difference between a **fake gospel** and a
real gospel

“They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.”

2 Peter 2:19

“even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:28

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

The difference between leading out of
insecurity and leading out of **love**

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger”

Ephesians 6:4a

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger”

Ephesians 6:4a

“Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way”

1 Peter 3:7a

“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger”

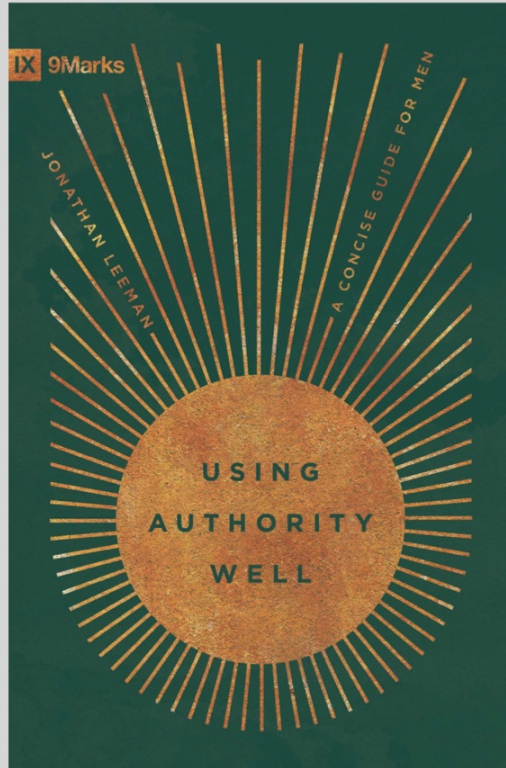
Ephesians 6:4a

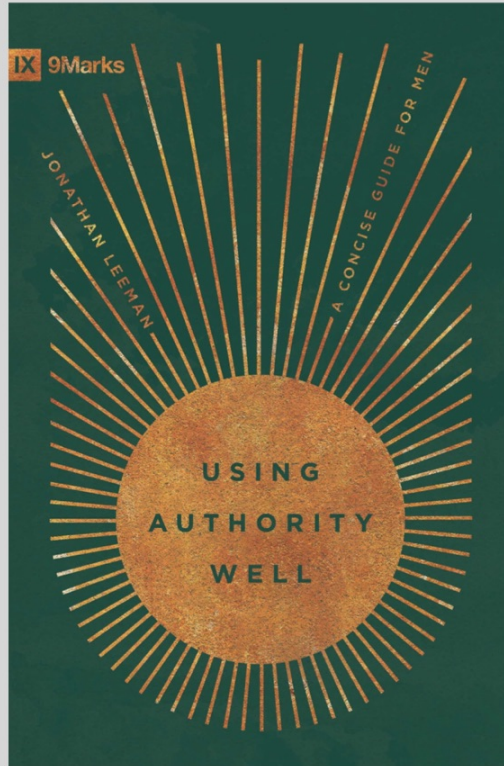
“Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way”

1 Peter 3:7a

“Masters . . . stop your threatening”

Ephesians 6:9a





“Easing the burden of those following you will always cost you something.”

Jonathan Leeman

* How do I use the authority entrusted to me by God to ease the burdens of those around me?