

Unaware Religious Hypocrites
Matthew 23:27-36

CHILD SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

- September 12
- 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- North Hills Church
- Hosted by G.R.A.C.E.
- Register online



**Hypocrites
Anonymous®**

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites!

“For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people’s bones and all uncleanness.

“So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites!

“For you build the tombs of the prophets
and decorate the monuments of the
righteous, saying,

“‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers,
we would not have taken part with them in
shedding the blood of the prophets.’

“Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

“Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers.
You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are
you to escape being sentenced to hell?”

“Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town,

“so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar.

“Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.”

Matthew 23:27-36

Jesus's warning - "**Woe to you.**"

Alas!

Alas!

How terrible!

Alas!

How terrible!

Grief awaits!

Alas!

How terrible!

Grief awaits!

Judgment is near!

Can't carry his own burden

Can't carry his own burden

Can't see his own blindness

Can't carry his own burden

Can't see his own blindness

Can't keep his own beauty

Jesus makes a claim.

Jesus makes a claim.

Jesus provides evidence.

Jesus makes a claim.

Jesus provides evidence.

Jesus draws conclusions.

Jesus makes a claim.

Jesus provides evidence.

Jesus draws conclusions.

Jesus issues a response.

Jesus **claims** -

Your **external displays** don't match
your **internal identity**.

“Whoever in the open field touches someone who was killed with a sword or who died naturally, or touches a human bone or a grave, shall be unclean seven days.”

Numbers 19:16



Jesus **provides evidence** -

Even the **good things** you do
are ultimately **selfish**.

“For you build the tombs of the prophets
and decorate the monuments of the
righteous, saying,

“If we had lived in the days of our fathers,
we would not have taken part with them in
shedding the blood of the prophets.” (29b)

“They [the Pharisees] do all their deeds to be seen by others.” (5a)

Jesus **concludes** -

Conclusion #1: Like **fathers** like **sons**

Conclusion #1: Like **fathers** like **sons**

“Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.” (31)

Conclusion #2: Keep up the family business.

Conclusion #2: Keep up the family business.

“Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers.”

(32)

Conclusion #3: You are hell-bound **serpents**.

“You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell?” (33)

“You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.

“And do not presume to say to yourselves,
‘We have Abraham as our father,’”

Matthew 3:7-9

“The whole expression means ‘snakes and sons of snakes.’”

Leon Morris

You sons of snakes.

You are hell bound — your ultimate destination is not what you think it is.

“Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.’”

Matthew 21:31b

“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.”

Matthew 21:43

Jesus **responds** - **Accountability** is coming.

Jesus **responds** - **Accountability** is coming.

“Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify,

Jesus **responds** - **Accountability** is coming.

“and some you will flog in your synagogues
and persecute from town to town,

Jesus **responds** - **Accountability** is coming.

“so that on you may come all the righteous
blood shed on earth,

Jesus **responds** - **Accountability** is coming.

“from the blood of righteous Abel to the
blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah,

Jesus **responds** - **Accountability** is coming.

“whom you murdered between the sanctuary
and the altar.

Jesus **responds** - **Accountability** is coming.

“Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.” (34-36)

Jesus takes on the role of God - “**I send.**”

Prophets

Prophets

Wise men

Prophets

Wise men

Scribes

Jesus prophesies the **response** of the Pharisees and scribes.

“some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town,” (34b)

“Now when they [the religious leaders] heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him [Stephen].

“But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

“And he said, ‘Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’

“But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him.

“And the witnesses laid down their garments
at the feet of a young man named Saul.

“And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’

“And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ And when he had said this, he fell asleep.”

Acts 7:54-60

“And Saul approved of his execution. And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem . . .

“But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.”

Acts 8:1-3

“Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned.”

2 Corinthians 11:24-25a

“You, however, have followed my teaching,
my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my
patience, my love, my steadfastness,

“my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra.”

2 Timothy 3:10-11a

So that . . . **accountability** for all righteous bloodshed occurs.

“so that on you may come all the righteous
blood shed on earth,

“from the blood of righteous Abel to the
blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah,

“whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.” (35-36)

On you may come all these things.

Jesus warns -

Jesus warns -

Jesus claims -

Jesus warns -

Jesus claims -

Jesus provides evidence -

Jesus warns -

Jesus claims -

Jesus provides evidence -

Jesus concludes -

Jesus warns -

Jesus claims -

Jesus provides evidence -

Jesus concludes -

Jesus responds -

“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 . . .
They do all their deeds to be seen by others.”
(2-5a)

Personal Hypocrisy Check

You might be a hypocrite if . . .
you easily identify wrong in **others** but can't
remember the last time you identified wrong
within **yourself**.

You might be a hypocrite if . . .

you regularly put yourself in a position **to be seen doing good** rather than doing good in a place you may not be seen.

You might be a hypocrite if . . .
you **do wrong** to enforce right.

You might be a hypocrite if . . .
your spiritual success is measured by the
spiritual **failure of others**.

You might be a hypocrite if . . .
you're the loudest voice testifying to **your**
own spiritual maturity.

Personal Hypocrisy Check

Personal Visibility Check

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others.

“Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

“But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret.

“And your Father who sees in secret will
reward you.”

Matthew 6:1-4