

Questions On Matthew Chapter 23

1. This chapter defines and denounces actual Pharisaism. How do (uninformed) people typically define Pharisaism today?
2. Though the Pharisees were wrong for many things, in what situation were people to listen to them and respect what they said? (2-3)
3. According to verse 4, the Pharisees required things of others that they were unwilling to do themselves. What did this make them? (Jesus called them this in 7 of the 8 “woes” — 13, 14, 15, 23, 25, 27, 29)
4. What things did the Pharisees do to get special attention and praise from others? (vs. 5-7)
 - a. Matthew 6 had already addressed what 3 practices in this regard? (see Matthew 6:2, 5, 16)
5. What did Jesus teach about the wearing of special religious titles? (8-12)
 - a. Some preachers call themselves “reverend,” but whose name alone is reverend? (Psalm 111:9)
 - b. Some preachers call themselves “pastor,” but who are pastors according to Acts 20:17 & 28?
6. What is suggested by Christ’s use of the word “woe?”
 - a. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verse 13?
 - b. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verse 14?

- c. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verse 15?
 - d. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verses 16?
 - e. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verse 23?
 - f. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verse 25?
 - g. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verse 27?
 - h. For what were the scribes and Pharisees condemned in verse 29?
7. According to Matthew 23:31, whose “children” were these Pharisees?
- a. What did Jesus tell them to do (32)? And what would be the implications for Jesus?
8. Whose killing “pleased” the Jews in Acts 12:1-2?
- a. Who was scourged? (2 Corinthians 11:24)
9. What range of prophets did Jesus mention as being killed and persecuted? (v. 35) *(Note that Zachariah may be the one in 2 Chronicles 24:20. If so, he is mentioned as last because of the placement of 2 Chronicles in the Jewish Bible.)*
10. What illustration did Jesus use to describe his affection for the Jews and His desire to help them?
11. What would be left “desolate?”