

3/16/25

## **Sermon – Hypocrisy isn't Pretty**

### **Scripture – Luke 12:1-3**

**Main Message – Hypocrisy in church is not pretty, desired, or loving. Be honest.**

In chapter 11, Jesus did the WOE unto you Pharisees and Scribes thing. He did this in front of a his disciples as well as a multitude of others. Then he said,

**Read 12:1 – Beware the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.**

Leaven is often used as a symbol of sin. Why? Because it expands, bloats and takes on a life of its own. *THE THING* Jesus warned his disciples first of all is to be aware of this issue called hypocrisy that they were acting out. It was not the words, but the deeds. ALWAYS look at deeds – always. The Pharisees wanted people to jump through a bunch of hoops, which were of not of God, of value, and lost hid the true message of God. The warning Jesus was emphasizing was this:

- 1) Wrong Teaching violates the commandments of God – primarily, “Thou shalt not take the Lord’s name in vain.” It is miss representing God to others.
- 2) The testimony of your faith is damaging to the Kingdom of Heaven when you do not act in accordance of what you are saying.

So Jesus told his Disciples to beware that leaven.

- 1) Beware what the Pharisees teachings were doing.
- 2) Beware that you also do not fall into that same trap of doing what they were doing.

The self-righteous embraces point #1, but do see point #2 in themselves.

Your life as a Christian is on display, always. Your life, your words, your deeds, your actions and often times even your thoughts will come bubbling out of you. If your words and actions are not consistent then you are speaking the same leaven that the Pharisees. It is certainly not a loving and consistent way to emphasize God’s Glory. It is an abuse of your relationship to Christ. Don’t believe me, then look at the next verses.

**Read 12:2-3**

Your failures will be shouted from the rooftop. Everything will be revealed: and likely revealed at the worst time. Your darkest statements will come back to haunt you.

Guard your hearts and your minds with your faith. Better to be an honest sinner than a hypocrite professing holiness when your very thoughts betray you. This is serious enough that this is *THE* thing Jesus emphasized to His Disciples, in other words, **YOU!**

**Read Luke 18:9-14.** Better to be the Tax Collector in humble need.