

A serious WARNING to the RELIGIOUS

Identifying false religious leaders and rescuing their deceived followers, from the Gospel of Mark 12:38-44

Introduction

38 In His teaching He was saying: "Beware of the scribes who like to walk around in long robes, and like respectful greetings in the market places, 39 and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets, 40 who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers; these will receive greater condemnation." 41 And He sat down opposite the treasury, and began observing how the people were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent. 43 Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; 44 for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on.

Titus 1:9 holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

Timothy 2:25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth

2 Peter 2:1 ...there will ...be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. 12 But these, like unreasoning animals, born as creatures of instinct to be captured and killed, reviling where they have no knowledge, will in the destruction of those creatures also be destroyed,

#1 The Lord's _____ against false religious leaders 38-40

Mark 11:17 ... 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a robbers' den."

1st Identify them by their _____ 38b-39

ONE who like to walk around in long robes,

Matthew 23:5 But they do all their deeds to be noticed by men;
for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels of their garments

TWO and like respectful greetings in the market places,

THREE and chief seats in the synagogues

FOUR places of honor at banquets,

Luke 14:7 He began speaking a parable to the invited guests when He noticed how they had been picking out the places of honor at the table...

2nd Identify them by their _____ 40a

James 1:27 *Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, ...*

3rd Identify them by their spiritual _____ 40b

Matthew 6:5 *"When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. 6 "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. 7 "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.*

4th Avoid them for their coming _____ 40c

#2 The Lord's _____ of their hypocritical greed 41-44

Matthew 23:13 *But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites*

One - Be _____ of the Danger

Two - Stop being tolerant or accepting of _____

Three - Hate _____ and GREED in your life

James 4:6 *God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*

Four - Take Christ's eternal _____ as the most important