

# Sermon Study Questions

October 9, 2022

1. Read Matthew 23:13-39
2. In our text Jesus rebukes the Pharisees and Scribes and pronounces seven woes upon them. Who were the Pharisees and Scribes, and what is a woe?
3. In the first woe Jesus rebukes the Pharisees and Scribes for shutting the Kingdom of Heaven (KOH) in people's faces. What does He mean by that, and how were they doing this?
4. In the second woe Jesus rebukes the Pharisees and Scribes for having zeal without knowledge as they traveled great lengths to make a single proselyte, but once they made one they'd turn him into twice as much a child of hell as themselves. What is the danger of having zeal without knowledge?
5. In the third and fourth woes Jesus rebukes the Pharisees and the Scribes for missing the forest for the trees as they would hone in on one law or commandment to the exclusion of the weightier ones. What can you do to keep yourself from majoring on the minors in this way, while at the same time not ignoring the "lesser things"?
6. In the fifth and sixth woes Jesus rebukes the Pharisees and Scribes for focusing on outward appearances rather than inward spirituality. What is the danger of focusing on the outward appearances, whether for yourself or in your appraisal of others? How do you address your inward spiritual life to ensure it is healthy?
7. In the final woe Jesus indicts the Pharisees and Scribes for being co-conspirators with their fathers in the murder of the prophets. On what basis does He do this? What is the lesson to learn from this woe?
8. In these seven woes we see Jesus roar like a lion, but in v.37 we see Him lament like a mother hen who longs to gather her chicks who will not listen. Because of this Jesus pronounces judgment on them, saying their house will be left to them desolate. How do you reconcile the mercy of our Lord with His judgment?
9. What do you learn about Jesus from this passage, and what practical application can you draw from this text/sermon?
10. Pray!