

## THE LAST WEEK OF THE LORD JESUS ON EARTH

### IVm. Jesus' Final Day of Public Teaching (cont.)

#### Jesus Proclaims Truth (Part 13 First Evening c. 4:45 P.M.)

Wed., 12<sup>th</sup> Nisán (April 1), 33 A.D.: Perverted Interpretation concerning:  
Swearing with an oath (5) Mt. 23:16-22

**Introduction:** We have been considering the lessons which The Lord Jesus Christ taught along the way to and in The Temple on Wednesday two days before His Crucifixion

#### A. Lessons Taught on the Way to The Temple (c. 5:50 to 7:15 A.M.).

The Lord Jesus and His disciples spent the night on the south west end of The Mount of Olives. On their way to The Temple, Jesus taught them three Lessons on Faith, Prayer, and Forgiveness.

#### B. His Ministry in The Temple (c. 7:30 A.M. to c. 6:00 P.M.).

Jesus entered The Temple early in the morning and began teaching and evangelizing. The religious leaders (chief priests, scribes, and elders) inquired of Him about His authority. Jesus challenged them by answering with a question of His own about John the Baptizer. After refusing to answer His question, Jesus told parables and began teaching lessons in eight categories: **Faithful Service**, **Fatal Wrath**, **Financial Responsibility**, **Future Living**, **False Religion**, **Fallible Recognition**, **Fatal Rebuke**, and **Faithful Giving**.

#### 1. The Lesson on Faithful Service (c. 9:00 A.M.).

This parable indicated two kinds disobedience: Blatant Resistant Disobedience and Reserved Disobedience which is implied consent to do what the father ordered but failed to comply.

The Prevailing Principle: all sinners who repent and persistently obey The Father God's will and commands shall pass on and enter into The Kingdom of The God before religious hypocrites, who do not enter but shall be punished eternally by perishing in The Lake of Fire.

#### 2. The Lesson on Fatal Wrath (c. 10:00 A.M.) - Two Parables

##### a. The Parable of the Housemaster and the Fruit of his Vineyard.

This parable teaches that we all shall be called into account for complete obedience to all four of The Lord Jesus Christ's Commands and thereby render to Him the fruits of their work of discipleship. But failure to render the fruits of the vineyard to The Housemaster results in **Fatal Wrath of Eternal Destruction**.

##### b. The Parable of the Wedding Feast (c. 11:00 A.M.).

This parable teaches that failure to respond to the invitation to The Wedding Feast and wear the provided Wedding clothing results in **Fatal Wrath** by being cast into outer darkness, suffering in anguish forever with weeping and gnashing of teeth in The Lake of Fire.

#### 3. The Lesson on Financial Responsibility (c. 1:00 P.M.).

Jesus responded to the question by the delegation of spies composed of Pharisees and Herodians with a question followed by an example and another question which He turned into a visual aid to teach The Truth that it is equally important in the eyes of The God to render to each authority over us that which rightfully belongs to each.

#### 4. The Lesson on Future Living (c. 1:45 P.M.).

The prevailing principle in this lesson is that The God expects every human to live in the light of life after death and the resurrection which follows. Every human must face The Judgment Throne of The God whether or not that one believes it and permanently commits trust to The Lord Jesus Christ. There is on the one hand The Resurrection of Absolute Life in union with The Lord Jesus Christ and on the other

hand the resurrection for judging to Eternal Damnation. We must live so as to avoid that tremendous eternal cost and to face life after death.

**5. The Lesson on False Religion (c. 2:30 P.M.).**

The Lesson that The Lord Jesus taught on False Religion covers four segments: Futile Resolve, Faulty Reflection upon Scripture, Fallible Recognition, and Fatal Rebuke.

a. **The Reproof of Futile Resolve (c. 2:30 P.M.).**

A lawyer-scribe took up the resolve and challenged Him with the question, Which sort of commandment in The Law <sup>is</sup> great and <sup>0</sup>first of all? The answer: We must sovereignly prefer The Godhead **FIRST** in all things and put all that concerns Him **FIRST** before all earthly desires and ambition!

b. **The Reproof of Faulty Rendering of Scripture (c. 3:00 P.M.).**

There were four areas of Faulty Rendering of Truth which needed to be reproofed and corrected; concerning: the resurrection, the impact and priority of The Law and the priority of love; Theology, especially Christology; and which Commandment of The Law was great.

In dealing with the matter if Christology, He explained the two meanings of 'Lord' and the two aspects of His Sonship. The Lord Jesus Christ is David's Lord and Supreme Master and at the same time He also is Jehovah '**LORD**,' David's Redeemer, The Second Person of The Godhead. In this way His Lordship is twofold. Firstly, He is The Son of The God. Secondly, He is The Son of Man (lit.: The Human), born of woman.

**6. The Lesson on Reproof of Fallible Recognition (c. 3:30 P.M.).**

Then in mid First evening (c. 3:30 P.M.), The Lord Jesus warned the crowds and His disciples against three serious categories in which the Pharisees used to obtain special recognition and avid attention: Lives Inconsistent with their Teachings, Insolent Appearance, and Intentness that their Status Be Honored. Although all these things may not be present at the same time, many of them are present in the lives of constituents and proponents of various religions of today, even in those who claim to be Christian. In conclusion of His reproof of fallible recognition especially in seeking honor, The Lord Jesus stated that those who exalt themselves shall be humbled, then He pronounced seven woes upon the hypocrites, scribes, and Pharisees.

**7. The Lesson of Reproof by Fatal Rebuke c. 3:45 P.M. (Mt. 23:13-36).**

On Wednesday afternoon (c. 3:45 P.M.) The Lord Jesus pronounced eight woes upon hypocrites, scribes, and Pharisees for being engaged in eight areas of damnable deeds: a. Prohibitive Oppression, b. Pre-tentious Praying, c. Persevering Proselytizing, d-g. Perverted Interpretation in Inconsistency four areas: d. Conformity in relation to The Scriptures, e. Stewardship in relation to Tithing; f. Ceremonial Cleansing; g. Righteous Living; and h. Persecution of The Lord's Prophets.

It was noted that the Greek word translated 'woe' is **Ὀὐαῖ** (ouwah-ée), an interjection which means "Alas! A woe! or a calamity!" which is "a lasting state of deep distress and affliction." In the context in which The Lord Jesus used the term eight times, it refers to the judgment to The **Géh-ehnnah**, the place of fiery torment for Sin. Thus the severity of these eight Woes multiplies seven times plus four more times (Lk. 11:42-46) the intensity of Woe that The Lord Jesus Christ pronounced upon these religious Pharisees and all religious people who are guilty of the same sins. All shall receive this same condemnation to The **Géh-ehnnah** according to the severity of their works, thus degrees of punishment as deserved in The Lake of Fire.

a. The First Woe! Prohibitive Oppression c. 3:45 P.M. (Mt. 23:13).

The first Woe that The Lord pronounced upon the hypocritical scribes and Pharisees before the face of His disciples was because of their prohibitive oppression upon the people to keep them from committing trust unto Him by shutting off the way to The Kingdom of The Heavens by constantly seeking to be intently gazed upon by humans and by proclaiming the substitution of ‘works,’ instead of emphasizing ‘repentance and faith,’ which The God Requires.

To fully comprehend the full impact of this pronouncement of woe by The Lord Jesus, we noted the necessity first to understand the way Scriptures portray and use the term The Kingdom of Heaven. We noted that there are both similarities and distinct differences between The Kingdom of Heaven and the gospel of The (Messianic) Kingdom and The Kingdom of The God and The Gospel of The Lord Jesus Christ proclaimed after His Death, Burial, and Resurrection-Ascension.

So it is today, the same condemnation awaits all who refuse to enter themselves and/or seek to bar or hold back those who attempt to enter The Kingdom by whatever Satanic means, especially false teaching particularly concerning Salvation. .

b. The Second Woe! Pretentious Praying c. 4:00 P.M. (Mt. 23:14; Mk. 12:40; Lk. 20:47).

There are two reasons why this woe was pronounced: for devouring that which belonged to widows and for pretentious praying.

(1) For Devouring that which Belonged to Widows (4:00 P.M.);

A clarity of the meaning of The Greek word translated ‘dwellings’ in this verse, *οικίας* (oikéahs) was given. The word for ‘houses’ is *οἴκοι* (oikoi). The accusative plural of *οικία* (oikéeah) means ‘dwellings’ with the metonymical meaning of ‘household, goods, property, and means.’ It was not just the houses of the widows that the scribes and Pharisees were devouring but also their means of livelihood.

There were two ways that the scribes and Pharisees could be accused by The Lord Jesus to be the so-called devourers of the widows. They are: to be Appointed Executors of a recently deceased husband’s estate and to be Honored at Sumptuous Feasts.

Thus the scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, and false teachers were in the process of devouring the widows’ dwellings or households in these two ways and also persisted in using their religion as a means of increasing their own coffers while decreasing those of the widows, thus profiting from their religion and religious teaching.

(2) For Pretentious Praying (4:15 P.M.).

This is the second reason for condemnation in the second woe that The Lord Jesus pronounced upon the scribes and Pharisees. The Greek noun translated pretense is *πρόφασις* (prófhahsis) in the anarthrous dative of advantage case. It means primarily ‘a pretended reason’ or secondarily ‘fair show or pretext’ i.e. ‘assuming an appearance in order to cloak the real intention’. Thus they assumed the appearance of desiring to intercede with pretentious prayers for grieving widows in order to extract or extort worthy presents from them.

It was also noted that what the scribes and Pharisees were praying are not prayers but as The Lord Jesus said (Lk.18:11) were nothing more than long sessions of prattle to themselves in public and in a sanctimonious tone. They prayed for the purpose to be heard and revered.

This lesson teaches that false preachers, false teachers, and false pastors are in their profession for the money under false pretenses. Their lot is cast with the historic scribes, Pharisees, and false prophets

under the curse and woe pronounced by The Lord Jesus Himself. We must be ever so careful not to be taken in with their false teaching and doctrine. To enable us to be so we must persistently engage and be learning more Truth to enable us to quickly recognize false doctrine and also warn others to avoid such teachers and propagators of false doctrine!

c. The Third Woe! Persevering Proselytizing c. 4:30 P.M. (Mt. 23:15).

The third **woe** that The Lord Jesus pronounced upon the hypocritical scribes and Pharisees before the face of His disciples was their persistent persevering proselytizing to make Pharisee Jews that follow their doctrine and practices. We considered five pertinent facts about ‘proselytes,’ how they originated in the days of the Maccabees and the various New Testament Scriptures that enlighten us to the reason for The Lord Jesus to express condemnation of the Pharisees. It also helps us to understand the difference between a truly regenerated disciple-saint of The Lord Jesus Christ and not just a proselyte-disciple and behooves us to examine our true relationship to The Lord Jesus Christ and behooves us to discern, but not ever to judge where others, we love and with whom we share friendship, stand in relationship to The Lord Jesus Christ. Are they truly disciple-saints of His or rather merely proselytes, who need our help in discipleship from merely believing to regeneration and growth to maturity in union with The Lord Jesus Christ?

d-g. The Fourth to Seventh **Woes** come under The Category of Inconsistency in four areas: d. Inconsistency in Conformity to The Scriptures in Relation to Swearing with an Oath; e. Inconsistency in Stewardship in Relation to Tithing; f. Inconsistency in Ceremonial Cleansing; and g. Inconsistency in Seemingly Righteous Living (Mt. 23:16-28). We shall consider these one at a time.

d. The Fourth Woe! Perverted Interpretation by Inconsistency in Conformity to The Scriptures in Relation to Swearing with an Oath-c. 4:45 P.M. (Mt. 23:16-22).

The Lord Jesus continued to upbraid the hypocrites, scribes, and Pharisees, titling them blind guides and morons (the Greek neuter plural adjective used as a noun is **μῶροι** (mōroi) literally meaning ‘foolish- or stupid-thinkers’! This is a degrading name to say the least! Then He stated that their erroneous interpretation, which reflected their foolish thinking, made an invalid, stupid assertion of distinction of the basis for an oath in order for them to evade the consequences and at the same time invalidate the oath.

“<sup>16</sup>Woe to you<sup>&</sup>, O blind guides<sup>+</sup>! who are saying, Who ever swear<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of the Holy Place<sup>[of The Temple]</sup>, it is <sup>[not one thing]</sup>nothing; but who ever swear<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of the gold of the Holy Place, he is <sup>[legally]</sup>obligated to fulfill his oath!<sup>!</sup> <sup>17</sup>O morons<sup>[worthless thinkers]</sup><sup>+</sup> and blind<sup>+</sup> ones, for which is greater, the gold or the Holy Place<sup>[of The Temple]</sup> which sanctifies<sup>[Ex. 30:26-29; 29:37]</sup> the gold? <sup>18</sup>And <sup>[saying]</sup>, Who ever swear<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of the altar<sup>~</sup>, it is <sup>[not one thing]</sup>nothing; but who ever swear<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of the consecrated gift, <sup>[namely]</sup> the one above it<sup>~</sup>, he is <sup>[legally]</sup>obligated. <sup>19</sup>O morons<sup>[worthless thinkers]</sup> and blind<sup>+</sup> ones, for which <sup>[is]</sup> greater, the consecrated gift or the altar which sanctifies<sup>[Ex. 30:26-29; 29:37]</sup> the consecrated gift? <sup>20</sup>Therefore the<sup>+</sup> one swearing<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of the altar is swearing<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of it and by means of all the-ones <sup>[masc. or neut.]</sup> above it. <sup>21</sup>And the one<sup>+</sup> swearing<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by

means of the Holy Place<sup>[of The Temple]</sup>, is swearing<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of it and by means of The-One <sup>[constantly]</sup><sup>[continuously, tense variation]</sup>-residing-in it. <sup>22</sup>And the<sup>+</sup> one swearing<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of <sup>/</sup>Heaven, is swearing<sup>[with an oath]</sup> by means of the throne of God and by means of The<sup>+</sup> One sitting above it” (Mt. 23:16-22).

The fourth Woe upon the hypocritical scribes and Pharisees was pronounced upon them for moronic thinking in seeking to evade consequences in swearing. There would be no need at all for anyone to evade the consequences if one does not swear at all, but always tells the truth. That is exactly what The Lord Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount over two years before. But the Pharisees, being unrighteous pretenders find it necessary to cover up their prevaricating. Here The Lord Jesus is merely expanding upon and reemphasizing what He taught in His Sermon on the Mount near Tabgha on the northeast shore of Galilee in Adar I (late February), A.D. 31 (Mt. 5:33-37).

“<sup>33</sup>Again, you<sup>&</sup> heard that it was declared by the ancient ones<sup>+</sup>, <sup>[Lev. 19:12]</sup>You<sup>\$</sup> shall not commit perjury<sup>[fail to perform oaths]</sup>, but you<sup>\$</sup> shall render<sup>[give back]</sup> your<sup>\$</sup> <sup>/</sup>oaths to The Lord. <sup>34</sup>But I Myself am saying to you<sup>&</sup>, Positively<sup>[unconditional negative imperative infinitive]</sup> do not swear<sup>[pledge with an oath]</sup> at all! Neither by means of <sup>/</sup>Heaven because it is The God’s throne, <sup>35</sup>nor by means of <sup>/</sup>Earth because it is a footstool under His feet, neither on the basis of Jerusalem<sup>[Greek]</sup><sup>&</sup> because it is The Great King’s city. <sup>36</sup>Neither swear<sup>[pledge with an oath]</sup> by means of your<sup>\$</sup> head because you<sup>\$</sup> are not able to make one hair white or black! <sup>37</sup>But the word of yours<sup>&</sup>, Yes is to be Yes! No,<sup>!</sup>is to be! no! Now the<sup>~</sup> thing more abundant than these is out of<sup>[source]</sup> the wicked<sup>+</sup> one” (Mt. 5:33-37 APT).

The Lord Jesus made very clear what the Scriptures say and mean about swearing with an oath (Zech. 5:3; 8:17), but the religious hypocrites had different opinions about getting around what Scriptures teach and ignore or else them defy by insisting on doing it their way, rather than doing what Scripture teaches. And at the same time thinking that their opinion is just as valid as Scripture. Consequently they do as they please and ignore Scripture in order to do what their proselyte religion teaches and bring upon themselves greater condemnation. “Opinion is a belief stronger than impression and less strong than positive knowledge” (Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary, 1973). Are you depending more upon your opinion than Scripture Truth that you have heard taught properly, thinking you know a better way. Stop at once! lest you enter into greater condemnation!

But The Lord Jesus wasn’t finished yet. He proceeded to deal with erroneous teaching in relation to consecrated gifts. He referred back to a previous confrontation with the scribes and Pharisees from Jerusalem (Mk. 7:2) on the Plain of **Gehnnaysahréht** (Mt. 14:34) on the northwest shore of Galilee in early Nisan (April), A.D. 32 (Mt. 15:1-9).

“<sup>1</sup>At that time the scribes and Pharisees from Jerusalem<sup>&</sup><sup>[Greek]</sup> approached <sup>/</sup>Jesus, saying, <sup>2</sup>Because of what are Your<sup>\$</sup> disciples transgressing the oral precept of the elders? For they are not washing their <sup>/</sup>hands for themselves whenever they eat bread loaves. <sup>3</sup>But He answered and said to them, Because of what do you<sup>&</sup> yourselves also transgress the commandment of The God by your<sup>&</sup> oral precept? <sup>4</sup>For The God commanded, saying,<sup>[Ex. 20:12]</sup> Continually cherish your<sup>\$</sup> <sup>/</sup>father and mother with tender affection<sup>[as precious value]</sup> and,<sup>[Ex. 21:17]</sup> The one speaking evil of father or mother is to come to an end in death. <sup>5</sup>But you<sup>&</sup> yourselves are

saying, Who ever say to his father or his mother, A consecrated gift! what~ ever you<sup>s</sup> may be benefited by means of me; <sup>6</sup>and, He positively should not respectfully cherish his /father or his /mother with tender affection<sup>[as precious value]</sup>! In fact you<sup>&</sup> rendered the commandment of The God null and void by means of your<sup>&</sup> oral precept. <sup>7</sup>O hypocrites, well did Isaiah prophesy concerning you<sup>&</sup>, saying, <sup>[Isa. 29:13, LXX]</sup> <sup>8</sup>This /people draw near to Me with the mouth of theirs and they respectfully cherish Me with tender affection<sup>[as precious value]</sup> with their lips; but the heart of theirs is altogether far distant away from Me. <sup>9</sup>In fact vainly<sup>[without profit]</sup> they revere Me, teaching commands of humans<sup>[generic]</sup> for teachings<sup>''</sup> (Mt. 15:1-9 APT).

Yes, the hypocrite-Pharisees negated this fifth commandment of The Law [Ex. 20:12 and 21:17] by instituting their oral precept disregarding proper legal responsibility by declaring that what ever their parents may be benefited by them, A consecrated gift! In this way they evade any longer being responsible to care for their aged parents.

Then in continuing His severe reproach of the hypocrite-Pharisees, The Lord Jesus referred back to His previous teaching on this same subject in that same context of the Sermon on the Mount in which He proclaimed to His disciples and to the large crowds, from Jerusalem, Judea, Galilee, **Dehkáhpohlees**, and across Jordan, in regard to The God's rejection of a consecrated gift if the offerer has caused offense to a brother (Mt. 5:23,24).

<sup>23</sup>Therefore if (and it may be) you<sup>s</sup> offer<sup>[bring to the face of]</sup> your<sup>s</sup> /consecrated gift upon the altar and there you<sup>s</sup> remember that your<sup>s</sup> /brother has something against<sup>[down upon]</sup> you<sup>s</sup>, <sup>24</sup>abandon your<sup>s</sup> /consecrated /gift there in front<sup>[to the face of]</sup> of the altar! And be slipping<sup>[lead under]</sup> away! First be conciliated to your<sup>s</sup> /brother and at that time come and offer<sup>[bring to the face of]</sup> your<sup>s</sup> /consecrated gift!'' (Mt. 5:23,24 APT).

A consecrated gift from one out of union with his brother was not accepted and that one could not enter into The Kingdom (Mt. 5:20). And if this is so, then one claiming to be a disciple and follower of The Lord Jesus Christ and yet will not take the necessary steps for reconciliation specified by Jesus Himself (Mt. 5:23; 18:15-17) is consequently out of union with The God, with The Lord Jesus Christ, and with His Church. Such an one is **not** accepted by The God, and will **not** enter into The Kingdom of The God. There must be reconciliation first with The God, The Lord Jesus Christ, and then with one another and The Church, which results in unity (Eph. 4:1-7 cf Jn. 17:20-23 please read both passages). If we have been given grace, we will reconcile with other regenerated sanctified disciples. Being in an unreconciled and unwilling frame of mind to take the steps to reconciliation is to prove that such an one is unrepentant and neither regenerate nor following The Lord Jesus Christ, but a reprobate and disapproved before The God. And all who refuse to segregate fellowship from such reprobates are unclean as well and **not** regenerated in The God's eyes because regeneration results in a willingness to be persistently obedient to The God's Word and **all** Scripture Truth. Therefore those who refuse to segregate shall join the reprobates in eternal condemnation (2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 Please read.).

Using the disparaging and abusive term, 'O morons!' is deemed to be unchristian-like by many today, but it was warranted and on target none-the-less. Yes! The Lord Jesus Christ did boldly use this term

several times directly to the face of the Pharisees. This reflected the bitter distaste He had for those who ignore or disregard **any** of His teaching. These impudent, unmannerly, stubborn, and rude religious hypocrite-proselytes deserved the upbraiding that Jesus gave them or He would not have treated them so. But also all religious proselyte hypocrites shall be considered as in the same category with the same eternal condemnation. Be warned! Do **not** be among their number!

All this makes clear the mind of The Lord Jesus Christ concerning His rigid stand on separation which He demands of regenerated disciples to take in union with Him on Earth until He comes again.

(Now note The Progression of Truth that The Lord Jesus Christ taught in The Temple on that Wednesday.

**Firstly**, He taught complete persistent obedience to The God's Word and the failure to enter The Kingdom of The God by those who claim to be obedient to The God's Word and put on a front that they are obedient ones, but actually are not. These The Lord Jesus Christ called religious hypocrites, all of which shall not enter the Kingdom of The God.

**Secondly**, then The Lord Jesus taught that The God expects His vineyard to bear fruit and render the fruits thereof in due season and be rendered to Him. He holds both the leaders and the workers accountable and will call every one individually to give account of the results in severe judgment for failure and great rewards in Eternity for fulfilling each one's role acceptably.

**Thirdly**, The Lord Jesus taught that all people of all nations are invited to the marriage feast which The Father provided for His Son. Those who respond to the invitation of The Gospel, and willingly wear the wedding garment, which The Father provides, will spend Eternity with His Son. But those who refuse to wear the provided wedding garment, The Robe of Righteousness, shall face Fatal Wrath by being cast into the outer dark and shall suffer in anguish forever with weeping and gnashing of teeth in The Lake of Fire.

**Fourthly**, The Lord Jesus taught that in addition to those under The Old Covenant, all are financially responsible to render, to every government over them, the taxes assessed by each governing body and at the same time all are equally legally obligated to be financially responsible to The God to see that He receives the proper proportion (the tithe, 10%) of all gross income plus other additional tithes to The Lord God in order to be sure that His True Church that has spiritually qualified leaders (deacons) being spiritually guided in handling The God's finances is properly distributed to His bondslave ministers for the spread of The Gospel as well as the care for the poor committed disciple-saints through offerings in addition to the **tithe (10%)**.

**Fifthly**, The Lord Jesus taught that The God expects every human to live in the light of life after death and the resurrection which follows and which every one must face whether or not that one believes it. There is on the one hand The Resurrection of Absolute Life in union with The Lord Jesus Christ and on the other hand the resurrection for judging to Eternal Damnation. The tremendous cost of denying resurrection and failing or refusing to persistently obey The Lord Jesus Christ and live for Him and not for self, results in the resurrection for judging to Eternal Damnation of agonizing pain and suffering in The Lake of Fire according to one's works.

**Sixthly**, The Lord Jesus taught that it is absolutely necessary to

sovereignly prefer The Godhead **FIRST** in all things and put all that concerns Him **FIRST** before all earthly desires and ambition!

**Seventhly**, He taught that all are to be aware of Faulty Rendering of Scripture in areas of Theology, especially Christology: He Himself is The Lord of All, David's Lord and Son, and at the same time He is The **LORD, Jehovah**, Who is The Messiah, both **LORD** and Lord.

**Eighthly**, He taught the need to perceive fallible recognition in hypocrites in three ways: a. by means of lives inconsistent with their teachings and proclamations; b. by seeking attention by means of distinctive dress and outward appearance; and c. by seeking attention positively by use of irreverent titles for themselves and others of their religious system indicating acknowledgment thereof and gaining attention negatively by use of irreverent titles for fellow humans which names belong to The Godhead alone.

**Ninthly**, He reinforced and reemphasized His pronouncement of **woe**, 'a lasting state of deep distress and affliction' upon those who teach false and misleading ways and the substitution of 'works instead of 'repentance and faith' as that which will appease the anger and impending fearful Judgment of The God and then refuse to enter themselves.

**Tenthly**, The Lord Jesus further extended His pronouncement of **woe**, a lasting state of deep distress and affliction' upon those pharisaical hypocrites who were known for their praying long prayers in public places, not from their hearts, but rather as a pretense of being religious.

**Eleventhly**, He pronounced an even greater **woe** by upbraiding hypocrites, scribes, and Pharisees for their persevering proselytizing to make Pharisee Jews that follow their sectarian doctrine and practices. Since they travel far and near to make just one proselyte-disciple and spend many hours training him in false doctrine, how much more should we put forth effort to properly disciple others with the true doctrine of The Lord Jesus Christ?

And today **Twelfthly**, He condemned the Pharisees for moronic thinking and replacing God's commandments with oral precepts of their own. We must beware of relying on our own opinions and opinions of those to whom we listen teaching us instead of what Scripture teaches and searching Scripture more deeply lest we be condemned with those Pharisees who relied on their opinions and those of their Rabbies before them in stead of relying upon The Holy Spirit's guidance and teaching through The Word of God.

**Conclusion:** Today we continued our study of the third day of The Last Week in The Life of The Lord Jesus Christ on Earth. In first evening (c. 5:05 P.M.) Wednesday, 12 Nisán (April 1), A.D. 33, He warned the scribes and Pharisees and their proselytes of the severe and more abundant judgment that which awaits for all those who deny, ignore, or alter any of what Scripture teaches in any way and refuses to take His stand on separation in union with Him on Earth until He comes again.

**Application:** What will you do beginning **today to insure that you will properly discern hypocrites**, false prophets, false preachers, false ministers of The Gospel or false teachers of religion and separate from those who depart from complete obedience to The Lord's teachings of Scripture in order that the unity of The Spirit in Truth shall not be disrupted?

Dr. Fred Wittman

**For next week: Read and meditate upon: Jesus' Final Day of Public Teaching** (early first evening c. 5:00 P.M.): **The Fifth Woe: Perverted Interpretation:** e. Stewardship in Relation to Tithing (Mt. 23:23,24).