

The Danger of Insincere Religion Matthew 23:13-39 March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## **READ THE WORD**

Read Matthew 23:13-39

## STUDY THE WORD

What is the primary issue Jesus is dealing with when it comes to the religious leaders in Matthew 23:13-39?

Jesus uses the word hypocrite six times in Matthew 23:13-29. How would you define hypocrisy?

What point is Jesus making in Matthew 23:13 when He says, "You shut the door of the kingdom of heaven in people's faces?

How would you define greed and self-indulgence? In what area of your life do you struggle with greed and self-indulgence? Matthew 23:25?

What did Jesus mean when he said, "The scribes and Pharisees are like whitewashed tombs" in Matthew 23:27?

In Matthew 23:33, Jesus refers to the religious leaders as snakes and brood of vipers. What do serpents/snakes and brood of vipers represent?

## **SHARE THE WORD**

How would you define legalism?

In what area of your life do you struggle with hypocrisy?

Going back to Matthew 23:11-12, What is Jesus calling you to be and do?

What is the big takeaway for you in Matthew 23:13-39?

## PRAY THE WORD

Adoration: Give praise for a faithful God of truth.

Confession: Guard your heart from hypocrisy toward others, toward self, and toward God.

Thanksgiving: Thank Jesus for telling it like is when it comes to hypocrisy.

Supplication: Ask the Spirit to change and grow you in your relationship with Christ.