

THE LIFE OF CHRIST

LESSON 8: MATTHEW 22-23



AUGUST 17, 2014

REVIEW

- Tension between the ruling Jews and Jesus continued to grow higher
- Jesus was in Jerusalem to be betrayed, crucified, and then resurrected (last week)
- Jesus called on his disciples to be humble
- The hypocrisy of the ruling Jews was becoming more and more evident

TODAY'S KEY TAKEAWAYS

- We must prepare ourselves to be in the church; attendance only is not acceptable
- We cannot dismiss the nuances of the Bible as overanalyzing; even Jesus observed them
- While “little things” are important, we must stay also focused on the great commands
- We must focus on cleaning our hearts, not just on behaviors others might see

MATTHEW 22:1-14

- Jesus told a parable which transparently told the ruling Jews that they would not be in the kingdom of heaven (but, in fact, destroyed)
- One man who was invited instead was not dressed in wedding clothes
- The king was enraged and threw him out
- **The man had neglected to prepare himself to be at the wedding feast**

MATTHEW 22:15-22

- The Herodians (Roman supporters) and some Pharisees tried to trap Jesus in a question about taxation
- They were amazed at Jesus' answer and left

MATTHEW 22:23-33

- The Sadducees came to Jesus and questioned him next, this time concerning the resurrection
- Jesus first answered their question
- **Jesus followed up by pointing out an important nuance of scripture which proves that there is life after death**
- The Sadducees were silenced by his answer

MATTHEW 22:34-40

- When the Pharisees heard what had happened, they gathered together
- One Pharisee asked Jesus a question about the great commandment in the law
- Jesus told him the answer to his question
- Jesus followed up with a question which completely confounded them
- No one asked him any more questions

MATTHEW 23:1-12

- Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples regarding the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees
- Their teachings were good, but their actions were not
- They acted only for the purpose of exalting themselves above others

MATTHEW 23:13-39

- Jesus then turned his attention directly on the Pharisees and scribes
- He called out their hypocrisy
 - You strain out a gnat to swallow a camel...
 - You clean the outside [only]...
 - You are like whitewashed tombs...
 - You say you would not have killed prophets
- Jesus lamented the coming judgment

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