

## RESPECTABLE SINS

## INTRODUCTION:

CHRIST AND THE PHARISEES  
HE HAD ALREADY SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, EXCEPT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS EXCEED THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, YE SHALL IN NO WISE ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

NOTICE THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE BEAUTITUDES AND THESE WOES.

HERE HE GIVES HIS JUDICIAL VERDICT AND SENTENCE.

THERE ARE 8 WOES FROM VERSE 13 TO V. 30.

HERE WE HAVE TWO OUT OF THE MANY REASONS WHY CHRIST

PRONOUNCED THESE WOES ON THE PHARISEES.

I. MISTAKEN MAGNITUDES: "YE BLIND GUIDES, WHICH STRAIN OUT A Gnat, AND SWALLOW A CAMEL."

## 1. THIS IS THE SIN OF INCONSISTENCY.

A. THEY MADE GREAT ISSUES OUT OF LITTLE THINGS

B. THEY OVERLOOKED THE REALLY IMPORTANT MATTERS.

C. A PROPER SENSE OF PROPORTION IS ESSENTIAL TO A WELL REGULATED CHRISTIAN LIFE.

MANY SINCERE CHRISTIANS SPEAK LOUDLY ABOUT KEEPING THE

10 COMMANDMENTS, THEIR DEFINITION OF WORLDLINESS,

WHAT CONSTITUTES PROPER DRESS, THE USE OF COSMETICS,

APPROPRIATE RECREATION AND AMUSEMENT;

DEFILING THE BODY; BEING A STUMBLING BLOCK OR AN OFFENSE

IN YOUR INFLUENCE OVER SOMEONE WHO IS LOOKING TO YOU AS AN EXAMPLE;

WHAT CONSTITUTES COMPROMISE OR SIN IN CHRISTIAN LIVING.

THESE THINGS SHOULD HAVE SERIOUS AND PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

BUT THE THOUGHT MENTIONED HERE IS THAT THEY MIGHT GET ENTIRELY OUT OF PROPORTION WHEN ONE BECOMES FANATICAL.

IN HARPING ON THAT ONE NOTE ALONE, AND FORGETS OR

NEGLECTS OTHER THINGS WHICH MAY BE EQUALLY OR

MORE IMPORTANT.

HERE ARE SOME THINGS WHICH COULD EASILY BE PROVEN FROM THE WORD OF GOD TO BE VERY SERIOUS SINS:

ARE YOU OBSTINATE, OR STUBBORN?

BIGOTED, PREJUDICED, BIASED;

CRITICAL, JUDGING;

DO YOU HAVE SOME PRIVATE INTERPRETATION OF GOD'S WORD, ABOUT WHICH GOOD CHRISTIANS MAY SINCERELY DISAGREE,

YET DO YOU TRY TO IMPOSE YOUR PERSONAL VIEW ON EVERYONE ELSE?

ARE YOU SELFISH, AND INCONSIDERATE?

ARE YOU GUILTY OF GOSSIP, SLANDER, REPEATING THE WORST

AND NOT THE BEST YOU KNOW ABOUT PEOPLE?

DO YOU HARBOR MALICE OR ILL WILL IN YOUR HEART?

IS THERE A LACK OF TENDERNESS, LOVE, COURTESY,

AND FORGIVENESS IN YOUR LIFE?

ARE YOU GUILTY OF LAZINESS, OR WITHHOLDING YOUR BEST WORK

IN THE TIME YOUR EMPLOYER IS PAYING YOU FOR?

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNCLEAN THOUGHTS OR DESIRES?

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YOU WHO INSIST SO MUCH ON KEEPING THE LETTER OF THE LAW,  
HOW MUCH DO YOU BREAK THE SPIRIT OF THE LAW?

YOU WHO INSIST ON KEEPING THE LAW OF GOD, HOW SINCERELY  
DO YOU TRY TO KEEP THE LAW OF THE LAND? -- SPEED & TRAFFIC LAWS.

(QUESTION TO BILLY GRAHAM, AND HIS ANSWER)

YOU WHO WOULDN'T THINK OF MURDERING WITH A KNIFE OR A GUN

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU COMMITTED CHARACTER ~~ASSAULTS~~

WITH AN UNKIND AND MALICIOUS TONGUE WAGGING AT BOTH

ENDS FOR THE GLORY OF SATAN?

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE SINFUL CAMELS YOU MIGHT SWALLOW  
WHILE CAREFULLY STRAINING OUT YOUR CEREMONIAL GNATS!!!

2. THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF INCONSISTENCIES WE MIGHT NOTICE

A. INCONSISTENCY OF CRITICAL JUDGMENT,

MT. 7:3, WHY BEHOLDEST THOU THE MOTE THAT IS IN THY BROTHER'S  
EYE, BUT CONSIDEREST NOT THE BEAM THAT IS IN THINE OWN EYE?

ROM. 2:1, WHEREIN THOU JUDGEST ANOTHER, THOU CONDEMNEST THYSELF  
FOR THOU THAT JUDGEST DOEST THE SAME THINGS.

B. INCONSISTENCY OF WORDS AND WORKS.

LUKE 6:46, WHY CALL YE ME LORD, LORD, AND DO NOT THE THINGS  
WHICH I SAY?

TITUS 1:16, THEY PROFESS THAT THEY KNOW GOD;  
BUT IN WORKS THEY DENY HIM.

II. RESPECTABLE SIN, MT. 23:25-28, YE MAKE CLEAN THE OUTSIDE OF THE  
CUP AND OF THE PLATTER, BUT WITHIN THEY ARE FULL OF EXTORTION  
AND EXCESS. YE ARE LIKE UNTO WHITED SEPULCHRES, WHICH INDEED  
APPEAR BEAUTIFUL OUTWARD, BUT ARE WITHIN FULL OF DEAD MEN'S  
BONES, AND OF ALL UNCLEANNESS. EVEN SO YE ALSO OUTWARDLY  
APPEAR RIGHTEOUS UNTO MEN, BUT WITHIN YE ARE FULL OF HYPO-  
CRISY AND INIQUITY.

1. THIS THE SIN OF HYPOCRISY, -- TRYING TO APPEAR RIGHTEOUS  
OUTWARDLY BEFORE MEN, WHILE BEING FILLED WITH INIQUITY WITHIN.

2. HERE ARE THE MARKS OF THE HYPOCRITE:

A. GREAT FORMALITY IN RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

B. A GREAT PARADE OF EXTERNAL PIETY.

(1). THE OUTSTANDING HYPOCRITICAL CHARACTER OF SECULAR LIT.  
IS GLOUCESTER IN SHAKESPEARE'S GREAT TRAGEDY, KING RICH. I.

"BUT THEN I SIGH AND, WITH A PIECE OF SCRIPTURE,

TELL THEM--THAT GOD BIDS US DO GOOD FOR EVIL;

AND THUS I CLOTHE MY NAKED VILLANY

WITH OLD ODD ENDS, STOL'N FORTH OF HOLY WRIT,

AND SEEM A SAINT, WHEN MOST I PLAY THE DEVIL."

C. (2). IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, ARE WOODEN BLOCKS, SHAPED  
LIKE BOOKS, LABLED "NOTHING WITHIN".

C. GREAT EFFORT TO CONCEAL HIS REAL IDENTITY, AND  
BE AN IMITATOR OF OTHERS.

(1). FABLE OF WARFARE BETWEEN THE ANIMALS AND FOWLS;  
THE COWARDICE OF THE BAT.

(2). NEGRO DIALECT VERSE ON "DE SUNFLOWER AND DE DAISY"  
MARKED MEN, P. 33

III. THE REMEDY

1. FOR HYPOCRISY -- A NEW INWARD REGENERATION, V. 26.

2. FOR INCONSISTENCY -- A NEW STANDARD OF MORAL & SPIRITUAL VALUES

A. GOD'S WORD.

C. FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE

B. THE LEADING OF THE H. S.

D. DESIRE TO GLORIFY THE LORD.