

YOU MIGHT JUST BE A PHARISEE IF ...

Luke 11:37-54

The Pharisees believed Israel had gone into _____ because she did not keep the Law of Moses. They codified that Law into hundreds of rules; they put a _____ around the Law so it was harder to break.

I. You Might Just Be a Pharisee If You Emphasize the _____ in Your Religion Rather than the _____

A. Jesus' host got all hot and bothered because Jesus did not _____ His hands before the meal

1) The Pharisee was not concerned about hygiene; he was concerned about _____ cleansing

2) The concern wasn't hygiene because the Pharisees prescribed washing in less than a _____ of water

B. Jesus' response to this Pharisee was three-fold

1) Jesus likened the Pharisees to cups/plates that were clean on the outside but _____ on the inside

2) The God who made the outside of man (his body) also made the inside of man—his _____

3) We must focus on where our _____ need to be cleansed rather than on ceremonial cleansing

APPLICATION: We might just be Pharisees today if ...

1) We are more concerned about our _____ than our thought life or our walk with God

2) We are more concerned about forms and _____ than what is truly happening in our hearts

3) We are just going through the motions in our _____ and it does not truly flow from our hearts

4) We think God deals with us based on our external _____ rather than internal cleansing by Christ

"Woe" = pronouncement of _____ if a person doesn't change his behavior—flows from sadness and indignation

II. You Might Just Be a Pharisee If You Major on the _____ instead of the Majors

A. Jesus caricatured the Pharisees for tithing teeny-tiny _____ but neglecting justice & love for God

B. We ought to tithe to support the church, but it will never replace _____ others and _____ God

APPLICATION: We might just be Pharisees today if ...

1) We think we are spiritual because we can check off all the _____ on our self-made list of do's/don'ts

2) We look to our own efforts for standing before God rather than the _____

III. You Might Just Be a Pharisee If Your Religion Is about _____ and Pride of Place

A. The Pharisees loved to sit in the seats on the _____ in their synagogues—the places of honor

B. The Pharisees loved to receive long, elaborate _____ in the marketplace before everyone

APPLICATION: We might just be Pharisees today if ...

1) Our real motivation for Christian service is recognition by _____ rather than pleasing Christ

2) We are concerned about our _____ or we want to be a "Christian celebrity"

3) We have to be involved in something _____

IV. You Might Just Be a Pharisee If Your Lack of _____ Means Your Influence Is Detrimental

Jesus likened the Pharisees to unmarked graves; touching a grave made a Jew ceremonially _____

1) The Pharisees were not what they seemed: the uncleanness in their hearts was _____ from view

2) They were like doctors who claim to treat the _____ when they actually carry and spread it

APPLICATION: We might just be Pharisees today if ...

1) We are _____ in our Christianity—if we claim to be outwardly what we are not inwardly

2) Those around us are worse off spiritually because of our _____