



# MATTHEW

Who is YOUR King?!?






# *Toxic Tithing*



Matthew 23:13, 23-24



The main thing is to keep the  
main thing the main thing.

Stephen R. Covey





## *Matthew's 5 Discourses*

- 5-7 The Sermon *on* the Mount
- 10 Commissioning the 12 [redemptive mission]
- 13 The Sermon *by* the Sea
- 18 Instructing the 12 [relational ministry]
- 23 - The Sermon *near* the City
- 25





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8 Woes

**25**



A piece of aged, textured paper with a metal pin at the top center.

# **The Beatitudes & the woes - a structural comparison.**



**3 . . . theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

4 . . . they will be comforted.

5 . . . they will inherit the earth.

6 . . . they will be filled.

7 . . . they will obtain mercy.

8 . . . they will see God.

9 . . . they will be called sons of God.

**10 . . . theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**



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**13**

**14**

**15**

**16-22**

**23-24**

**25-26**

**27-28**

**29-36**



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**16-22**

**23-24**

**25-26**

**27-28**

**29-36**



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27-28

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29-36



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16-22

23-24

25-26

27-28

29-36



**3 . . . theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**



3 . . . theirs is the kingdom of heaven.





“But woe to you,  
scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For  
**you shut up the kingdom of heaven**  
against men; for you neither go  
in *yourselves*, nor do you allow those  
who are entering to go in.

Matthew 23:13



**13      shut up the kingdom of heaven**

**14**

**15**

**16-22**

**23-24**

**25-26**

**27-28**

**29-36**



**13**    **shut up the kingdom of heaven**

**14**

**15**

**16-22**

**23-24**

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**27-28**

**29-36**



**13    shut up the kingdom of heaven**

**14**

**15**

**16-22**

**23-24    neglect faith**

**25-26**

**27-28**

**29-36**



**13**     **shut up the kingdom of heaven**

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**15**

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**13      shut up the kingdom of heaven**

**14      devour widows' houses**

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**15 evangelistic, but hell-bound**

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**27-28 whitewashed tombs, full of death**

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Job description of a Pharisee:






Job description of a Pharisee:  
*guide people to God.*










Definition of a hypocrite:





Definition of a hypocrite:  
*pretending to be something  
we're not.*







The background of the image is a piece of aged, yellowish-brown paper with a rough, fibrous texture. The edges of the paper are irregular and slightly torn. A single metal nail is pinned to the top left corner of the paper, with its head pointing towards the top left and its point directed downwards and to the right. The lighting is soft, creating a slight shadow of the nail on the paper.

# Mission of Jesus:





Mission of Jesus:  
*draw all men to God.*





O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing!

Matthew 23:37





O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing!

Matthew 23:37





But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,  
hypocrites! For you shut up the  
kingdom of heaven against men; for  
you neither go in *yourselves*, nor do  
you allow those who are entering to go  
in.

Matthew 23:13





Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!  
For you pay tithe of mint and anise and  
cummin, and have neglected the  
weightier *matters* of the law: justice and  
mercy and faith. These you ought to have  
done, without leaving the others undone.  
Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and  
swallow a camel!

Matthew 23:23-24





Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!  
For you pay tithe of mint and anise and  
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Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and  
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Matthew 23:23-24







A piece of aged, textured paper with a metal pin at the top center. The paper has a mottled, yellowish-brown appearance with visible fibers and creases. The edges are irregular and slightly torn. A small, dark metal pin is pinned to the top center of the paper, casting a soft shadow to the left.

Description:





Description:

**Hypocrites don't have a  
relationship with God and  
hinder others from having a  
relationship with Him as  
well!**





Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and  
swallow a camel!

Matthew 23:24





Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and  
swallow a camel!

Matthew 23:24









Key Lesson:





**Key Lesson:**

**If we major on minor things  
we'll totally miss the main  
thing!**







A piece of aged, textured paper with a metal pin or needle pinned to the top left corner. The paper has a mottled, yellowish-brown appearance with visible fibers and creases. The pin is a simple metal needle, positioned diagonally with its head pointing towards the top left.

Application questions:





But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,  
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Matthew 23:13



A piece of aged, textured paper with a metal pin at the top center. The paper has a mottled, yellowish-brown appearance with visible fibers and creases. The metal pin is silver-colored and is positioned vertically, with its head at the top and its point resting on the paper. The background is dark and textured.

Application questions:





Application questions:

**1. What keeps us (and others)  
from God?**









For I say to you, that unless your  
righteousness exceeds *the*  
*righteousness* of the scribes and  
Pharisees, you will by no means enter  
the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:20





For I say to you, that unless your  
righteousness exceeds *the*  
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Application questions:

1. What keeps us (and others) from God?





Application questions:

1. What keeps us (and others) from God?
  - **by focusing on right behavior**





Application questions:

1. What keeps us (and others) from God?
  - by focusing on right behavior





Application questions:

1. What keeps us (and others) from God?

- by focusing on right behavior
- **by developing an attitude of arrogance**





Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:3b





Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:3b





Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are  
converted and become as little children  
you will by no means enter the  
kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:3b





. . . you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier *matters* of the law: justice and mercy and faith.

Matthew 23:23b





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Matthew 23:23b





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Application questions:

1. What keeps us (and others) from God?
  - by focusing on right behavior
  - by developing an attitude of arrogance





## Application questions:

1. What keeps us (and others) from God?
  - by focusing on right behavior
  - by developing an attitude of arrogance
  - **Through toxic tithing**





Also [Jesus] spoke this parable to  
some who trusted in themselves that  
they were righteous, and despised  
others:

Luke 18:9





“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

Luke 18:10





The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men - extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

Luke 18:11





I fast twice a week;  
I give tithes of all that I possess.'

Luke 18:12





I fast twice a week;  
I give tithes of all that I possess.'

Luke 18:12





And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’

I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other;

Luke 18:13-14a





for everyone who  
exalts himself will be humbled, and he  
who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 18:14b





for everyone who  
exalts himself will be humbled, and he  
who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 18:14b





for everyone who  
exalts himself will be humbled, and he  
who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 18:14b

And whoever  
exalts himself will be humbled, and he  
who humbles himself will be exalted.

Matthew 23:12



A piece of aged, textured paper with a metal pin or needle pinned to the top left corner. The paper has a mottled, yellowish-brown appearance with visible fibers and creases. The pin is a simple metal needle, angled downwards and to the right. The background is dark and textured.

Application questions:





Application questions:

**2. What draws us (and others) to God?**





Application questions:

**2. What draws us (and others) to God?**  
**Majoring on the Majors!**





“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier *matters* of the law: **justice and mercy and faith.**

Matthew 13:23





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Matthew 13:23





“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier *matters* of the law: judgment and mercy and faith.

Matthew 13:23





“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,  
hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint  
and anise and cummin, and have  
neglected the weightier *matters* of the  
law: condemnation and mercy and faith.

Matthew 13:23





Serpents, brood of vipers! How can  
you escape the condemnation of hell?

Matthew 23:33





Application questions:

2. What draws us (and others) to God?  
Majoring on the Majors!





Application questions:

2. What draws us (and others) to God?  
Majoring on the Majors!

- **Judgement**





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Matthew 13:23





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Matthew 13:23





And as it is appointed for men to die  
once, but after this the judgment.

Hebrews 9:27





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law: condemnation and **mercy** and faith.

Matthew 13:23





Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem,  
and the Son of Man will be betrayed to  
the chief priests and to the scribes; and  
they will **condemn** Him to death

Matthew 20:18





“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier *matters* of the law: condemnation and **mercy** and faith.

Matthew 13:23





**Mercy triumphs over judgment!**

James 2:13b





not by works of righteousness which  
we have done, but according to His  
mercy He saved us . . .

Titus 3:5a





But go and learn what *this* means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.

Matthew 9:13





Application questions:

2. What draws us (and others) to God?  
Majoring on the Majors!

- Judgement





Application questions:

2. What draws us (and others) to God?

Majoring on the Majors!

- Judgement
- Mercy





Application questions:

2. What draws us (and others) to God?

Majoring on the Majors!

- Judgement
- Mercy





Application questions:

2. What draws us (and others) to God?

Majoring on the Majors!

- Judgement
- Mercy
- Faith





Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

John 5:24





Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

John 5:24





Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

John 5:24





For by grace you have been saved  
through faith, and that not of  
yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not  
of works, lest anyone should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9





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# *Toxic Tithing*



Matthew 23:13, 23-24





# MATTHEW

Who is YOUR King?!?

