

# Doing the Dishes: The Traps of Hypocritical Religion

## Luke 11:37-54

### I. Hypocritical Religion Obsesses Over the External (11:37-43)

#### Jesus Comes to Dinner (37-38)

<sup>37</sup> While Jesus was speaking, a Pharisee asked him to dine with him, so he went in and reclined at table. <sup>38</sup> The Pharisee was astonished to see that he did not first wash before dinner.

#### From The Inside Out (39-41)

<sup>39</sup> And the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. <sup>40</sup> You fools! Did not he who made the outside make the inside also? <sup>41</sup> But give as alms those things that are within, and behold, everything is clean for you.

#### Woe #1: Neglecting Justice and Love (42)

<sup>42</sup> "But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every herb, and neglect justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.

#### Woe #2: Public Acclaim (43)

<sup>43</sup> Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seat in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces.

### II. Hypocritical Religion Obstructs the Path to Salvation (11:44-46, 52)

#### Woe #3: Unmarked Graves (44)

<sup>44</sup> Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without knowing it."

#### Woe #4: Heavy Burdens, Lazy Fingers (45-46)

<sup>45</sup> One of the lawyers answered him, "Teacher, in saying these things you insult us also." <sup>46</sup> And he said, "Woe to you lawyers also! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers.

#### Woe #5\*: Blocking the Door (52)

<sup>52</sup> Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering."

### III. Hypocritical Religion Opposes God's Word (11:47-51, 53-54)

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### Woe #6: The Blood of the Prophets (47-51)

<sup>47</sup> Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your fathers killed. <sup>48</sup> So you are witnesses and you consent to the deeds of your fathers, for they killed them, and you build their tombs. <sup>49</sup> Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute, <sup>50</sup> so that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation, <sup>51</sup> from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be required of this generation.

### Laying a Trap for the Word (53-54)

<sup>53</sup> As he went away from there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to press him hard and to provoke him to speak about many things, <sup>54</sup> lying in wait for him, to catch him in something he might say.

