

“Woes to Avoid”

Matt. 23:1-12

Introduction

- I. When addressing the issues of the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus pronounced “woe” unto them for certain actions (Matt. 23:13-39).
- II. We must make sure that we are not committing the same mistakes of old.

Discussion

- I. Woe for hindering salvation (Matt. 23:13, 15).
 - A. We must make sure that we are doing our part to preach the Gospel to everyone (Mark 16:15; Eph. 2:13-18).
 - B. We must make sure that we are living in ways that will allow us entrance into Heaven (2 Cor. 13:5; 1 Cor. 9:27).
- II. Woe for taking advantage of others (Matt. 23:14).
 - A. We should make sure that others are helped (Gal. 6:10; James 1:27).
 - B. We should be generous and giving (Luke 21:1-4; 2 Cor. 9:7).
- III. Woe for pretense (Matt. 23:14, 25-28).
 - A. We should be sincere in our service (Jos. 24:14; 2 Cor. 2:17).
 - B. Our actions should coincide with our words (1 John 3:18).
- IV. Woe for spiritual ignorance (Matt. 23:16-22).
 - A. Christians should diligently learn God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15; Psm. 119:11).
 - B. We should mature spiritually (Heb. 5:11-14; 2 Pet. 3:18).
- V. Woe for “gnat straining” and “camel swallowing” (Matt. 23:23-24).
 - A. Christians should not bind scruples (Rom. 14:22).
 - B. We must not emphasize certain things and ignore other things (Acts 20:27).
- VI. Woe for rejecting God's Word and His messengers (Matt. 23:29-35).
 - A. We will all be held accountable to God's Word (John 12:48).
 - B. We should appreciate those that have the courage and willingness to preach God's Word (Rom. 10:14-18).

Conclusion

- I. Jesus was strong in His rebuke of the scribes and Pharisees.
- II. We need to be careful that we do not fall into the same condition.