

THE JESUS SCANDALS

Part 9: *The Insults & Arguments*

Introduction - Who Are The Pharisees?

Seeing Religion's Blind Spots

RELIGIOUS PEOPLE TEND TO...

- i) Obey the _____ and miss the _____.

Matthew 12:1-8

TAKE OUT: Always _____ the _____ behind the _____.

- ii) Prioritize _____ from the outside in.

Matthew 23:5-13, 25-28

Matthew 5:20

TAKE OUT: Ask God for an _____ cleansing. Then live with an awareness of your inner _____ to remain clean.

- iii) Make _____ issues their _____ concern.

Matthew 23:16-24

TAKE OUT: Life is short; prioritize you _____.

- iv) Find their identity in their religious _____ more than their current _____.

Matthew 3:9

TAKE OUT: God has no _____.

- v) Allow _____ to eclipse truth.

Mark 7:1-23

TAKE OUT: Each generation must ask _____?

Conclusion - The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Romans 6:23

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. After reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, perturbed, perplexed, or encouraged you.

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

2. Another "blind spot" of religious people is that they (we?) tend to see the sin of others much easier than they see their own. Read what Jesus says about this in **Luke 18:9-17**.
a) In what ways have you experienced the attitude described in **verse 11**, seen either in others in religious circles or in yourself? b) Who might be a modern day version of a "tax-collector" to us? c) In **verse 13** that tax collector literally says "**God, be merciful to me, the sinner.**" What are the positive benefits of taking on this attitude, whether in prayer or just in life in general?

SO WHAT?...

3. Review the five "blind spots" of religion listed in the sermon notes. What one(s) reflect(s) a tendency of your own? Pray for each other.

Bruxy Cavey @ The Meeting House - Sunday, August 18, 2002