

GET OUT THE LEAVEN — PART 2

I. What is the Leaven of the Pharisees?

Hypocrisy — Luke 12:1

- Matt 23:13, 14, 15, 23, 25, 27, 29
- **Mat 23:13**
 - shutting up the kingdom of the heavens before men, by neither going in, nor allowing those who are entering to go in
 - What does this look like today?
- **Mat 23:14**
 - Eating up widow's houses, greed
 - making long showy prayers
 - receiving a greater judgement – see **James 3:1**
- **Mat 23:15**
 - A zealousness to gather/disciple people to their hypocritical “walk”
 - Son of Gehenna twofold – why?
 - What does this look like today?
- **Mat 23:16-22**
 - using a pledge sworn over money given to the Temple to override a pledge sworn by the altar or Dwelling Place. This essentially was a way of making an excuse to break Torah (**READ Mark 7:5-13**)
 - What do we focus on and value incorrectly?
- **Matt 23:17, 24, 26** — Blindness and foolishness
 - The Greek here for blind is taphlos (toof-los) which means opaque (as if smoky), i.e. (by analogy) blind (physically or mentally)
 - The Greek here being translated fool is moros which means dull or stupid (as if shut up), i.e. heedless, (morally) blockhead, appearing absurd
 - A blind fool is one who the Father has given eyes to see, yet chooses to not walk in accordance with what he has seen



- **Mat 23:23-24**
 - Focusing primarily on the minor details while neglecting the weightier matters – compassion and belief (fear of Yahweh)
 - Also read parallel account in **Luke 11:42**
 - What does this look like in our lives today?
 - Are you straining out gnats and swallowing camels?

- **Mat 23:25-34**
 - Hypocrisy – outward appearance contrary to inward truth

Bottom Line:

Contrary to what we may have always been told, leaven does not represent sin, but rather leaven represents hypocrisy and “voluntary” blindness in our approach to Torah which then results in sin.

