

## Matthew Lesson Chapter 23

### The Gospel According to Matthew -- Chapter 23

**Historical background** – Jesus is in Jerusalem. Crowds and his disciples continue to follow him and listen to his teaching.

#### Vocabulary

- disciples
  
- “do not practice what they preach”
  
- heavy, cumbersome
  
- phylacteries and tassels
  
- One instructor, the Messiah
  
- Humbled
  
- Exalted
  
- hypocrites
  
- “woe to you”
  
- “snakes and vipers”

#### Questions about Chapter 23

1. What does Jesus say to the crowds about the teachers of the law and the Pharisees? (v. 1-4)
  
2. Why do the Pharisees act as they do and wear what they wear? (v. 5-7)
  
3. What does Jesus teach his followers to call one another? Why? (v. 8-12)
  
4. What is Jesus teaching about in verses 11 and 12?
  
5. Starting in verse 13, Jesus lists 7 “woes” on the teachers of the law and the Pharisees. What are these men doing?
  - a. Making salvation hard for others
  
  - b. Corrupting converts
  
  - c. Making religion trivial
  
  - d. Neglecting what is very important
  
  - e. Self-indulgence
  
  - f. Wickedness within
  
  - g. Murder of God’s prophets
  
6. Jesus speaks the truth with tears in verses 37 – 39. What does Jesus’ reaction show us about his heart?