

Speaking Truth Under Pressure

Matthew 23:1-39

October 23, 2022

There are times when it is necessary to _____ and live the truth, and not let the _____ of man or possible _____ intimidate us to remain silent. Knowing _____ to speak and when to keep silence _____ us to be consciously and _____ filled with the Holy Spirit, and to exercise a spirit of loving _____.

A. Jesus Addressed The _____ and His Disciples (vv. 1-12).

1. He speaks as a _____ regarding the scribes and Pharisees.
 - a. The _____ to explain and carry out what Moses taught
 - b. "Seat" stands for _____.
 - c. Believers are to _____ live out God's Word, regardless of the teachers.
2. Binding heavy _____ (the first of six parabolic illustrations)
 - a. They were too heavy to bear. (_____ replaced truth.)
 - b. They would _____ bear the burdens themselves.
 - c. Truly scriptural teaching sets the believer _____ from sin.
 - d. Discern responsibilities from _____ actions.
 - e. Don't trade _____ for outward appearance.
3. Recognize the _____ of the Messiah.
 - a. _____ causes us to want to be recognized over others.
 - b. _____ of spirit is honored by the Lord.

B. Jesus Included The _____ in His Address (vv. 13-36).

1. He began His _____ ministry with eight beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount.
 - a. It was different in _____ than what had been taught.

b. It showed that God's _____ are always best.

2. In contrast, He ends His _____ instruction with eight woes to the rulers, and gives four more parabolic illustrations.
 - a. _____ guides – v. 16 (absurd, but graphic)
 - b. The _____ and the camel – v. 24 (grotesque, but obvious)
 - c. The _____ and platter – v. 25-26 (disgusting, but apparent)
 - d. Serpents and _____ – v. 33 (poisonous and repulsive)
3. The teacher is to be a _____, not the master.

C. Jesus Addressed the City of Jerusalem (vv. 37-39)

1. It was the center of _____ life.
 - a. It was controlled by the _____ rulers.
 - b. They had led the people _____ and scattered them.
 - c. Their house (Temple and city) would be left _____.
2. Jesus revealed His heart again.
 - a. He is _____ and caring, even for the worst.
 - b. Though rejected, He will ultimately be _____.