

# Dealing with Spiritual Hypocrisy

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 6:1.

B. Hypocrisy is throughout the Bible and a part of every religion. (Amos 1, Isaiah 9:17, 10:6, 65:5)

C. God is irritated with hypocrites. They will receive a judgment. (Job 15:34, 8:13, 27:8, 36:13)

D. Hypocrisy was prophesied. (Mark 7:6)

E. There are many hypocrites in the Bible that show us the elements of hypocrisy. It is always presented negatively in Scripture. (1 Timothy 4, Acts 8, Matthew 23, Acts 23, Luke 11: 44, Matthew 13, 7:15, 2 Peter 2:17, 1 Thessalonians 2:5, Matthew 9)

## II. Jesus warns people of the seriousness of hypocrisy because there are consequences.

A. The hypocrite's practice was phony because their theology was substandard.

B. Christianity is not only a matter of what one does. There is a moral cognitive standard also. Teaching and practice must be together.

## III. Christian standard is to be superior to both people claiming to be religious and pagan systems.

## IV. The practice of righteousness.

A. The Bible teaches that we are to do righteous acts before men. (Psalm 106:3, Isaiah 58:2, 1 John 2:29)

B. We do our righteousness, but not for the purpose of being seen by men. (Matthew 6:1)

C. Hypocrisy is the homage vice pays to virtue.

D. We are to pass the glory on to the Lord. (Romans 10)

E. We must practice our righteousness because we are created by God to do good works. Jesus is our model.

## V. The peril of religion.

## VI. The promise of reward.

**Application Questions:**

1. When have you struggled with hypocrisy?

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2. How can we prevent hypocrisy in our lives?

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3. How can we address hypocrisy in the lives of others with a goal towards change and not merely rebuke? Explain.

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