

Passion Week—Woes against the Scribes and the Pharisees (Tuesday, March 31, 33)

Matthew 23	Mark 12:38–40	Luke 20:45–47
<p>1 Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples,</p> <p>2 saying, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on the seat of Moses.</p> <p>3 Therefore do and observe everything that they tell you, but do not do as they do, for they tell <i>others to do something</i> and do not do <i>it themselves</i>.</p> <p>4 And they tie up heavy burdens and put <i>them</i> on people’s shoulders, but <i>they</i> themselves are not willing with their finger to move them.</p> <p>5 And they do all their deeds in order to be seen by people, for they make their phylacteries broad and make their tassels long.</p> <p>6 And they love the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues</p> <p>7 and the greetings in the marketplaces and to be called ‘Rabbi’ by people.</p> <p>8 But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ because one is your teacher, and you are all brothers,</p> <p>9 And do not call <i>anyone</i> your father on earth, for one is your heavenly Father.</p> <p>10 And do not be called teachers, because one is your teacher, the Christ.</p> <p>11 And the greatest among you will be your servant.</p> <p>12 And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.</p> <p>13 “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites!—because you shut the kingdom of heaven before people! For you do not enter, nor permit those wanting to go in to enter.</p> <p>14 [verse not in best manuscripts]</p> <p>15 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites!—because you travel around the sea and the dry <i>land</i> to make one convert, and when he becomes <i>one</i>, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you <i>are</i>!</p>	<p>38 And in his teaching</p> <p>he said,</p> <p>“Beware of the scribes,</p> <p>who like walking around in long robes and greetings in the marketplaces</p> <p>39 and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets,</p> <p>40 who devour the houses of widows and pray lengthy <i>prayers</i> for the sake of appearance. These will receive more severe condemnation!”</p>	<p>45 And <i>while</i> all the people were listening,</p> <p>he said to the disciples,</p> <p>46 “Beware of the scribes,</p> <p>who like walking around in long robes and who love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets,</p> <p>47 who devour the houses of widows and pray lengthy <i>prayers</i> for the sake of appearance. These will receive more severe condemnation!”</p>
<p>16 “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing! But whoever swears by the gold of the temple is bound <i>by his oath</i>.’</p> <p>17 Fools and blind <i>people</i>! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that makes the gold holy?</p> <p>18 And, ‘Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing! But whoever swears by the gift <i>that is</i> on it is bound <i>by his oath</i>.’</p> <p>19 Blind <i>people</i>! For which <i>is</i> greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift holy?</p> <p>20 Therefore the one who swears by the altar swears by it and by everything <i>that is</i> on it.</p> <p>21 And the one who swears by the temple swears by it and by the one who dwells <i>in</i> it.</p>		

22 And the one who swears by heaven swears by the throne of God and by the one who sits on it.
 23 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites!—because you pay a tenth of mint and dill and cumin, and neglect the more important *matters* of the law—justice and mercy and faithfulness! It was necessary to do these *things* while not neglecting those.
 24 Blind guides who filter out a gnat and swallow a camel!
 25 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites!—because you cleanse the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence!
 26 Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.
 27 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites!—because you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and of everything unclean!
 28 In the *same* way, on the outside you also appear righteous to people, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.
 29 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites!—because you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous,
 30 and you say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in the blood of the prophets!’
 31 Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets!
 32 And you—fill up the measure of your fathers!
 33 Serpents! Offspring of vipers! How will you escape from the condemnation to hell?
 34 For this *reason*, behold, I am sending to you prophets and wise men and scribes. *Some* of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will flog in your synagogues and will pursue from town to town,
 35 so that upon you will come all the righteous blood shed on the earth from the blood of righteous Abel up to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.
 36 Truly I say to you, all these *things* will come upon this generation!
 37 “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How many times I wanted to gather your children together the way a hen gathers her young together under *her* wings, and you were not willing!
 38 Behold, your house has been left to you desolate!
 39 For I tell you, you will never see me from now *on* until you say, ‘Blessed *is* the one who comes in the name of the Lord!’” [Ps 118:26]

Passion Week—The Widow’s Copper Coins (Tuesday, March 31, 33)

Mark 12:41–44

Luke 21:1–4

41 And he sat down opposite the contribution box *and* was observing how the crowd was putting coins into the contribution box. And many rich people were putting in many *coins*.
 42 And one poor widow came *and* put in two small copper coins (that is, a penny).
 43 And summoning his disciples, he said to them, “Truly I say to you that this poor widow put in more than all those who put *offerings* into the contribution box.
 44 For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in everything she had, her whole means of subsistence.”

1 And he looked up *and* saw the rich putting their gifts into the contribution box,
 2 and he saw a certain poor widow putting in there two small copper coins.
 3 And he said, “Truly I say to you that this poor widow put in more than all *of them*.
 4 For these all put *gifts* into the offering out of their abundance, but this *woman* out of her poverty put in all the means of subsistence that she had.”

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