



“Pursuing Holiness” Series

Fighting The Pharisee In You!

March 11th, 2007

Review

- Wake up and FIGHT!
- Your spiritual journey is difficult, but amazing.
- What you meditate on – that's what you become....
- Fight in the Spirit – through the Word

Define Through Verses

- Matthew 5:20
- Matthew 19:3
- Matthew 22:15
- Matthew 23:16-19; 26-27

A. General Evaluation

- Pharisees are:
 - Righteous in the world's eyes
 - Deceptive
 - On their way to Hell
 - Not afraid to test other people
 - Selfish
 - Bring up difficult issues in front of others
 - Like to put people down
 - Focus on externals

B. Eternal Loss; Eternal Joy

Philippians 3

- His Suffering
 - “suffer the loss” = to forfeit
 - “count” = controlling in council; deem
- His Gain
 - Christ - he spares himself from wickedness to gain Christ (makes a profit)
 - Righteousness
 - A Difficult Yet Joyful Life

C. The Faith to Attain

- Focus on your salvation
 - Christ Jesus made you His own – what does this mean to you?
- Honestly confess your failures
- Move on by faith
 - “forget” = completely forgetting

Conclusion - Authorities

- When your parents tell you to do something, do you only do that or do you look for ways to share Christ with them through your actions?
- When confronted by a teacher or another authority about a sin in your life, do you get angry at them and call them foolish or do you prayerfully think about it, confess it and look to Christ for strength?

Conclusion

- In what ways are you a Pharisee – depending on your own righteousness?
 - Do you constantly try to work around the rules?
 - Do you look really righteous, harbor sin and yet condemn others?
 - What is your main aim in life – pursuing Christ or pursuing what you think is real joy?
 - How well are you at forgetting?

