

**Wheelersburg Baptist Church 12/1/2024**  
**Matthew 23:23-28 “Blind Guides, Dirty Cups, and Whitewashed Tombs”**

*Series: “The Danger of Being Religious: Jesus and the Pharisees in Matthew 23”*

**Main Idea: In Matthew 23:23-28 Jesus gave three illustrations that expose the true condition of the merely religious. They are like a blind guide, a dirty cup, and a whitewashed tomb.**

**I. The blind guide – He majors on \_\_\_\_\_ issues (23-24).**

- A. This is what the \_\_\_\_\_ did.
  - 1. They gave God \_\_\_\_\_ things.
  - 2. They failed to give God the most \_\_\_\_\_ things.
- B. This is what \_\_\_\_\_ said about it.
  - 1. Major on \_\_\_\_\_ issues.
  - 2. Beware of the deception of “\_\_\_\_\_ obedience.”

**II. The dirty cup – He cleans up the outside and neglects the \_\_\_\_\_ (25-26).**

- A. The Pharisees focused on \_\_\_\_\_ issues.
- B. Biblical Christianity is just the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. It starts on the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. It shows up on the \_\_\_\_\_.

**III. The whitewashed tomb – He appears \_\_\_\_\_ but is not (27-28).**

- A. A Pharisee \_\_\_\_\_ righteous on the outside.
  - 1. He's \_\_\_\_\_ on the outside.
  - 2. He's \_\_\_\_\_ on the inside.
- B. A Pharisee is in big \_\_\_\_\_ and doesn't even know it.

**Take Inventory: Let’s consider carefully three sobering possibilities.**

- 1. It's possible to \_\_\_\_ like a Christian and not be one.
- 2. It's possible to \_\_\_\_\_ how to be a Christian and not be one.
- 3. It's possible to \_\_\_\_\_ you are a Christian and not be one.