

**Mamas Don't Let
Your Babies Grow Up to be**

Cowboys



WHOA!

Matthew 23:1-12



Three Terms

Religion: A cause, principle, or system of beliefs held to with ardor and faith

Legalism: A strict, literal, or excessive conformity to the law or to a religious or moral code

Hypocrite: A person who puts on a false appearance of virtue or religion



"Important" People

But when he saw many of the **Pharisees** and **Sadducees** coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: **"You brood of vipers!** Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

v. 8-12



Pharisee or Follower?

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples (v. 1)

Jesus will turn his attention to the religious leaders but he starts out talking to the crowds

Jews and People familiar with these religious leaders

But also, people that had made no decision to become followers



Pharisee or Follower?

He also emphasized his disciples

**Jews and People familiar with these
religious leaders**

**However, they had made a commitment
to follow**

**This is important because religion, legalism
and hypocrisy can impact both:**

The Lost and The Found!



Caution Danger Ahead!

So, you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach.

WARNING



**RIDE AT
YOUR OWN
RISK**

WARNING



WE BITE
NO FEEDING OR PETTING
PLEASE

v. 3



Jesus and the Law

**Jesus did not do away with the law
(Matthew 5:17)**

He was not throwing out the rules

**He also points out to respect what
they are teaching**

**However, beware of following
their actions for they do not
practice what they preach**



Beware the Pharisee

They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

v. 4



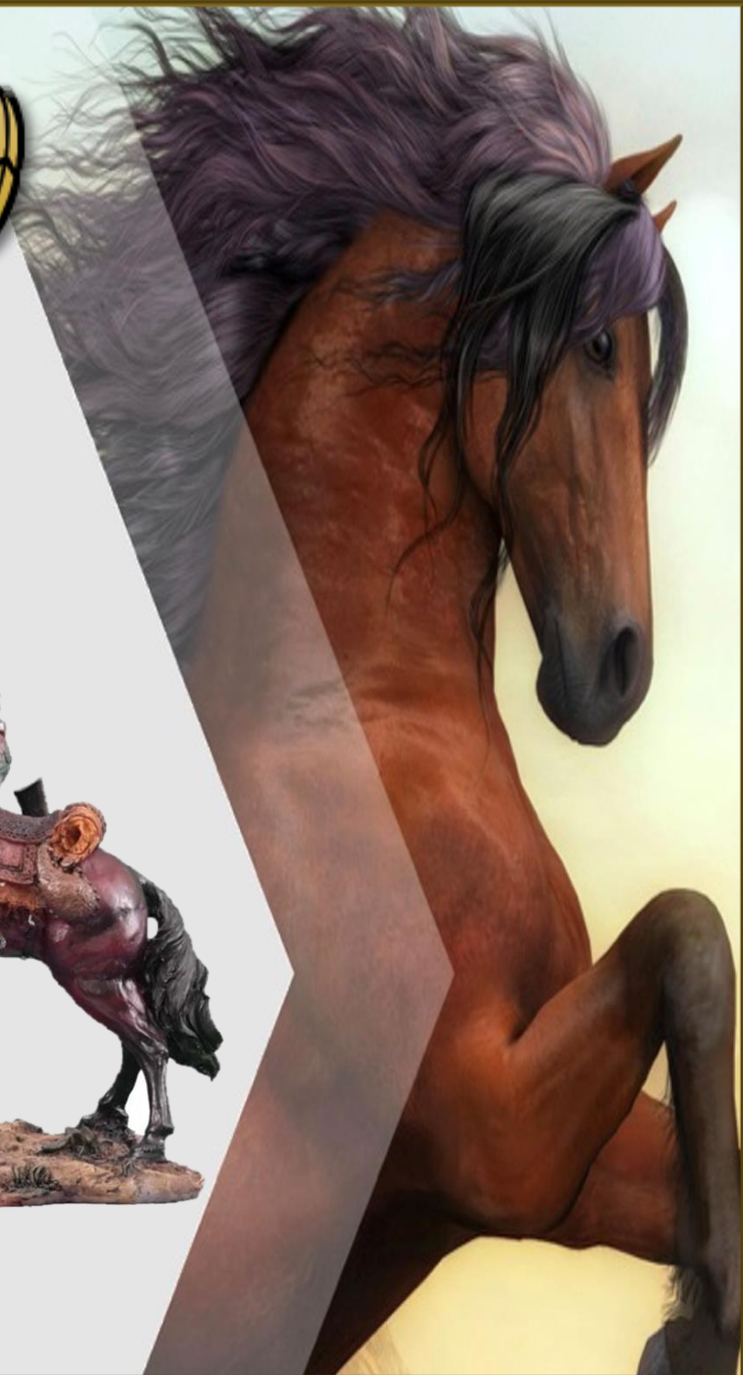
Beware the Pharisee

Beware of people with too many rules

Beware of people whose religious rules have no or weak Biblical support

They pile you down with thou shall and thou shalt nots, but have no willingness to help you live them

They are critical of your lifestyle but have no compassion for your life



All About the Show

“Everything they do is done for people to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to be called ‘Rabbi’ by others.”

v. 5-7



All About the Show

They do what they do to draw attention to themselves

They may even tell you they are doing what they do out of love, but Jesus says they only love themselves

Wear things to make the stand out

They sit in places where they will be seen

They demand respect They like titles





DANGEROUS!



Finding a Follower

None of us is the teacher we are all learners

None of us is the “Parent”

Leaders in the church are not in charge they are in front! (1 Peter 5:1-3)

All believers should be able to teach

Every believer is a servant



Finding a Follower

“Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns.”



Matthew 24:45-46





WHIOA!

- He calls them snakes and vipers
- He identifies them as hypocrites
- He tells they are blind guides
- He says they are condemned to hell
- He accuses them of being murderers



WHIOA!

Things that
cause sorrow
or distress;
Troubles



WHIOA!

**Cease or Change a
course of action
or a line of thought,
Pause to consider
or reconsider**



WHIOA!



I want to ask us not to just **Woe**
Feel sorry, distressed or troubled



I want inspire us to **Whoa!**
Cease Change a course of action
or a line of thought

Pause to consider or Even Reconsider

