

You Might Be A Pharisee...

You might be a Pharisee if you . . .

- consider the church roll the Lamb's book of Life.
- are disgusted by the moral filth that is playing out of your own VCR/DVD player.
- come on Wednesday night only if it is your turn to give the talk or invitation.
- are quick to complain about the discomfort of an hour of sitting on padded church pews, but can easily sit for 3 hours on hard bleachers at football game – Terry Benton

Seven kinds of Pharisees . . .

1. Shoulder: wore good deeds for all to see
2. Wait-a-little: would let situation play out . . .
3. Blind (bruised/bleeding): avoided looking at unclean folks
4. Pestle (Hump-backed): made show of his avoidance of temptation
5. Ever-reckoning: good deeds must outdo bad
6. God-fearing (timid): motivated by punishment
7. God-loving: obeyed God out of true love
 - ▶ Nicodemus, Jn.3, 7, 19

I. Bad Features of Pharisees

- Mt.3:7, **brood of vipers** (salvation without repentance). 9, false hope
- Mt.5:20, **insufficient righteousness**. Ch.6
- Mt.9:10-13, **holier than thou attitude**; self-satisfied; “arrived”
- Mt.12:9-14, **hatred, murder, false accusations**
 - Lord’s claims were not traditional
 - He preached kingdom not of this world
 - He broke sabbath, therefore Dt.13
- Mt.19:3, 7 **loose morals**

- Mt.23:2-3, **hypocrisy** – say / do not (25-27, 29)
– Irony: ‘Of course you can do what they say, but don’t do what they do!’
- Mt.23:4, **oppression** – multiplied number of ways one might offend God
- Mt.23:5-12, **pride** – even in clothes and titles
- Mt.23:13,15, **false teaching, zeal**. Ro.10:2
- Mt.23:23, **disobedience**

- Lk.7:39, **false holiness** [Is.65:5]
- Lk.16:14, **covetous, mockers** [Jn.11-12]
- Lk.16:14-15, **pride** [18:9, disdain for 'sinners']
- Lk.20:47, **cruel covetousness**
- Jn.12:42, **intimidation**

I. Bad Features of Pharisees

II. Pharisees Are More Popular Than Ever

Pharisaism: hypocritically self-righteous and derogatory

- Some use the word 'Pharisee' to brand anyone who opposes unscriptural doctrines and practices . . . **to silence opposition**
- Only way to escape the brand: **tolerate everything... 'Give up moralizing...'**

These are intolerant of the intolerant

You may be a Pharisee if
you believe one must...

- **Avoid beginnings of sin.** Dn.1:8; Mt.5:22-23,
27-28, 29-30.
 - Apostasies begin with baby steps
 - Wife
 - Toddler
 - Spiritual dangers

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- **Worship God in spirit and truth.** Mt.15:8-9;
Jn.4:24.

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- Put 'love' in context of obeying God.
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- Put 'love' in context of obeying God. Jn.14:15.
- **Adhere to Scripture.** 2 Jn.9.
 - To leave Scripture is to leave God.
 - Pharisees bound by tradition of elders, Mt.15. Ac.15.

I. Bad Features of Pharisees

II. Pharisees More Popular...

III. Fruits of Pharisaism

Departure From the Pattern

- Entertainment, not worship
- Gender roles
- Morals – “Romans 14 allows us to differ in ‘ethical questions’ ... drinking, alcohol, dancing and immodest dress”

Romans 14

- **1-5:** *'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.'*
- **6:** church composed of Jews and Gentiles
 - Food: Lv.11 . . . Days: Lv.23

Kosher food / keep days to be justified would be sin, Gal.4:9-11; Col.2:16-17.

1 Co.9:19-23, Paul sided with strong, but not at expense of weak.

Romans 14

- 1-5: *'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.'*
- 6: church composed of Jews and Gentiles
- 14: 'nothing' unclean??
 - If taken out of context: Rv.21:27.
 - Food of Lord's supper?
 - Day of week (1 Co.16:2)?

Compare:

'all things are lawful for me'

– 1 Co.6:12; 10:23

Romans 14

- 1-5: *'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.'*
- 6: church composed of Jews and Gentiles
- 14: 'nothing' unclean?? Rv.21:27.
- **15**: consciences collide: eater must consider non-eater. Do NOT destroy...
- **16**: your good... 1 Co.10:25-30.
- **21**: 'meat...wine...anything'
- **22-23**: 'faith'
- **15:1-2**: bear with scruples of the weak