

Insights from Luke

#44: “Combating the Hypocritical Spirit”

Luke 11:37-44

Luke 11:37

“³⁷ Now when He had spoken, a Pharisee asked Him to have lunch with him; and He went in, and reclined at the table.”

Luke 11:38

“³⁸ When the Pharisee saw it, he was surprised that He had not first ceremonially washed before the meal.”

Luke 11:39

“³⁹ But the Lord said to him, ‘Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the platter; but inside of you, you are full of robbery and wickedness.’”

Isaiah 29:13

“¹³ Then the Lord said, ‘Because this people draw near with their words And honor Me with their lip service, but they remove their hearts far from Me, and their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote...’”

Luke 11:40-41

“⁴⁰ You foolish ones, did not He who made the outside make the inside also? ⁴¹ But give that which is within as charity, and then all things are clean for you.”

I Samuel 16:7

“⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.’”

Luke 11:42

“⁴² But woe to you Pharisees! For you pay tithe of mint and rue and every kind of garden herb, and yet disregard justice and the love of God; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.”

The two great commands were neglected.

Love of God

Love of neighbor

Luke 11:43-44

“⁴³ Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the chief seats in the synagogues and the respectful greetings in the market places. ⁴⁴ Woe to you! For you are like concealed tombs, and the people who walk over them are unaware of it.”

Be careful about your opinions on how people should lead their lives as Christians.

**Beware of a hypocritical spirit.
You appear sincere when,
in fact, your life is marked by
insincerity.**

What are you really like on the inside?

Outside	Inside
Courteous	Unkind
Proper language	Inner dialogue laced with profanity
Moral commitment to spouse	Secret lust
Talk about prayer	Seldom pray
Forgiving spirit	Full of resentment
Things appear fine	One hidden sin could be your downfall.

May we all return to our first love.

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