

/We will now begin the sixteenth lecture on Matthew. /The main text will begin from Matthew 22:15.

/Read 22:15-16. /Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are.

/Back in the days of Jesus, there were several sects. /Among the Jews, there were the Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, and Zealots. /In today’s passages, the Herodians and the Pharisees are testing Jesus.

/Before they started testing Jesus, they said to Him, /“We know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.”

/Verse 17. /Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

/The Pharisees spoke as if they acknowledged Jesus. /However, they were hypocritical. /Seemingly, they stood for Jesus. /However, they were actually testing Jesus.

/Verse 17. /Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

/They asked, “Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” /If Jesus told them to pay taxes to Caesar, they would have said that He was not qualified to be Christ.

/If Jesus told them not to pay taxes to Caesar, they would have denounced Him a traitor against Caesar. /Thus, no matter what Jesus would have said in answer to them, they would have accused Him of being wrong. /They intended to trap Jesus in His words.

/Verse 18. /But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?

/Jesus knew they were hypocrites. /Jesus knew the Pharisees were testing Him. /Jesus rebuked them. /Then He asked them to bring Him a coin.

/They brought Him a denarius. /This denarius was a currency of Rome. /It was Rome’s money. /It was a silver coin. /On the coin was Caesar’s portrait.

/Verse 20. /and he asked them, “Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?”

/Jesus asked the Pharisees. /“Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?”

/Verses 21-22. /“Caesar’s,” they replied. Then he said to them, “Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

/They answered that the portrait and inscription were Caesar's. /Then, Jesus said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." /"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's." /This means that we should fulfill national obligations and responsibilities.

/We must carry out our duties to our nations. /God grants the authorities of nations. /Romans 13:1 /We have duties to our nations. /First is the duty of tax payment.

/Second is the duty of military service. /Third is the duty of education. /Fourth is the duty of labor. /We are to be responsible for these duties. /Next, Jesus said, give "to God what is God's."

/What is God's? /All of creation and the universe is God's. /Our bodies and lives are God's. /All materials are God's. /We must worship God in spirit and in truth. /Psalm 24:1 /1 Corinthians 6:19-20 /Malachi 3:8-10

/Politics and religion must be separated. /Governments should not intervene with works of the church. /Also, churches should not go against the authority of the government. /The two must be separated from each other. /We must act properly towards our nations. /We must also act properly before God.

/Verses 23-24. /That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him with a question. "Teacher," they said, "Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and have children for him.

/Here the Sadducees tested Jesus. /The Sadducees insisted that there was no resurrection or the afterlife. /They also believed that there were no angels. /Acts 23:8 /Acts 23:8 /They tested Jesus with what is written in Deuteronomy 25:5.

/Deuteronomy 25:5 says, if an elder brother was married and if he dies, his younger brother is to marry his older brother's wife, /and have children. /For example, let's say there were seven brothers. /The first son married a woman but he died.

/The second son married his older brother's wife. /Then the second son also died. /Let us say that the third to seventh sons all married the woman then died. /The Sadducees then asked whose wife she will be of the seven at the resurrection.

/Verse 29. /Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God."

/The Sadducees did not know the Bible or the power of God. /There were misunderstandings because they did not know the Scriptures. /This cannot be understood with the thoughts of man.

/The Sadducees did not believe in resurrection. /As a result, misunderstandings arose. /At that moment, Jesus properly taught them.

/Verse 30. /At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.

/When believers die, their spirits immediately go to heaven. /The flesh returns to the ground. /At the resurrection, the spirit in heaven will become one with the flesh in the ground to be transformed into a spiritual body.

/In heaven, people will not marry because they will be in their resurrected bodies. /The resurrected bodies are spiritual bodies. /Heaven is spiritual world. /It is not a world of the flesh where people get married.

/People do not get married in heaven. /They become like angels. /There is no marriage. /They will not live only with their own families in heaven.

/It will transcend families. /Believers will only worship God. /All will glorify God and live in the presence of God.

/Verse 31. /But about the resurrection of the dead – have you not read what God said to you,

/Verses 32-33. /‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.” When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

/Jesus talked about the resurrection of the dead. /Exodus 3:6 /God told Moses, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.”

/If we calculate the times of Moses, Abraham had been dead for five hundred years. /Isaac and Jacob had also been dead for hundreds of years. /They died on earth, but Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were alive in heaven.

/Therefore, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are alive even now. /Moses is also alive in heaven. /All of Jesus’ disciples are alive in heaven. /All believers who have gone ahead of us are alive in heaven as well.

/This means that resurrection most definitely exists. /Our God is God who gives life. /He is God who gives resurrection.

/When we believers die we will go to heaven. /At the Second Coming of Jesus, believers will be resurrected in their spiritual bodies. /Then we will live in heaven, the spiritual world.

/Verse 33. /When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

/The Sadducees tested Jesus. /The Sadducees tested Jesus. /However, Jesus was not tested by them. /Instead, the Lord revealed the mystery of God in detail. /Therefore, all who heard this were astonished.

/Verse 34. /Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

/Verse 35. /One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

/There was an expert in the law among the Pharisees. /He was also called a teacher of the law. /Mark 12:28-34 /This expert in the law questioned Jesus. /“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

/Verses 37-38. /Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.

/Jesus replied. /“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” /To love God is the first and greatest commandment.

/We must love God more than our own lives. /In 1 John 5:3, it says, /“This is love for God: to obey his commands.” /To keep God’s Word is to love God.

/To love God is the first commandment. /The first through fourth commandments of the Ten Commandments say to love God. /Then the fifth through tenth commandments tell us to love our neighbors. /The Ten Commandments consist of commandments regarding God and man.

/Verses 39-40. /And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

/The second greatest commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself. /Love covers over a multitude of sins. /1 Peter 4:8 /Therefore, we must truly love our neighbors.

/We must save our neighbors from sin. /We must preach the gospel to them. /We must save their lives. /We must save our neighbors with the power of God. /This is what it means to love our neighbors. /This is the law and the creed of prophets.

/Verses 41-42. /While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” “The son of David,” they replied.

/Jesus asked the Pharisees, “Whose son is the Christ?” /They answered, “The son of David.”

/This was true. /They were correct when they answered, “The son of David.” /Then, Jesus asked them again.

/Verse 43. /He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

/However, David called Christ, “Lord.” /Psalm 110:1. /It says, “The LORD says to my Lord.” /David spoke in this way. /This means that the Father God addressed Jesus the Son in this way.

/The Father God addressed Jesus the Son in this way. /Thus, David called the Father and the Son, “Lord.” /At that time, no one could reply to this. /Jesus was born in the flesh as a descendant of David. /Jesus was a descendant of David in character.

/However, the Lord is spiritually the Son of God. /He is spiritually the Trinity God. He is Jesus the Son. /Therefore, David called Christ, “Lord.”

/Therefore, Jesus Christ is “Lord” of David in His divineness.

/We will continue with the lecture on Matthew chapter 23. /The title is, “Seven Woes.” /First, do not do what the Pharisees do. /Verses 1-12. /Second, the seven woes. /Verses 12-36.

/(1) Hindering men from entering heaven. /Verses 13-14. /(2) Making twice as much a son of hell. /Verse 15. /(3) Swearing by materials. /Verses 16-22. /(4) Neglecting justice, mercy and faithfulness. /Verses 23-24. /(5) Clean on the outside, but full of greed inside. /Verses 25-26. /(6) Beautiful outside, but rotten inside. /Verses 27-28. /(7) The righteous persecuted. /Verses 29-36. /The righteous persecuted. /Verses 29-36.

/Third, Jesus’ sorrow for Jerusalem /Verses 37-39.

/Read verses 1-2. /Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: “The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat.

/The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sat in Moses’ seat. /This is the seat of leaders. /It is the seat of the teachers of the law.

/Verse 3. /So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach.

/Then Jesus said, “Obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do.” /The Pharisees were good at teaching but they did not practice what they taught.

/They did not obey God’s Word. /They practiced hypocrisy. /They were hypocrites.

/They taught the Bible, but were not upright in their actions. /We must properly teach, and we must put to practice what we teach.

/Verse 4. /They tie up heavy loads and put them on men’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

/The Pharisees put heavy loads on men’s shoulders. /They put heavy loads of the law on them. /Yet, they did not even attempt to lift a finger.

/They acted as leaders. /They became the teachers. /However, they did not obey what they taught. /Pastors today must not behave in the same way. /We must obey while teaching others.

/Verse 5. /“Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long;

/The Pharisees tried to look good in behavior. /They made their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long. /“Phylacteries” were leather boxes containing

parchments inscribed with Bible passages. /They carried it on their foreheads or wrists.

/This means that they did not do things for God. /Everything they did was done for people to see. /They did this for their popularity. /This was hypocrisy and they were hypocrites.

/Verses 6-7. /they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them 'Rabbi.'

/The Pharisees wanted to sit in the place of honor. /They loved to be greeted by others. /They also liked to be called "Rabbi."

/They wanted to be praised and desired to receive honor and glory. /However, Jesus came to serve. /Jesus was gentle and humble.

/Verse 8. /"But you are not to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have only one Master and you are all brothers.

/Jesus said, "You are not to be called 'Rabbi.'" /The true Teacher is Jesus alone. /Pastors are only workers who deliver the Word of Christ.

/Pastors are those who preach the Word of Jesus Christ. /Jesus alone is the true Teacher.

/Verse 9. /And do not call anyone on earth 'father,' for you have one Father, and he is in heaven.

/Jesus also said, "Do not call anyone on earth 'father.'" /This means we should not call men on earth, father of faith. /The Father of faith is God alone.

/Our Father God gave us new lives. /He saved our souls. /He is the one who give us life. /Therefore, he is our Father of faith and spirit.

/Of course, we call our fleshly father, "father." /However, we must not call him the father of spirit. /Only our Father God is the true Father of spirit.

/Verse 10. /Nor are you to be called 'teacher,' for you have one Teacher, the Christ.

/It says, "Nor are you to be called 'teacher.'" /Our true Teacher and Leader is Jesus Christ. /All pastors here are merely messengers.

/We pastors need to faithfully do our jobs. /We must lead believers according to God's will.

/Verses 11-12. /The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

/In heaven, those who serve are the greatest. /Whoever exalts himself will be humbled. /However, whoever humbles himself will be exalted. /Jesus became a servant. /We must wash the feet of others as Jesus did, and we must become servants and serve others.

/Verse 13. /“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men’s faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.

/The teachers of the law and Pharisees shut the kingdom of heaven. /They kept people from entering heaven. /They led the church to ritualism. /They built the church with humanism. /Therefore, they did not teach believers about the spiritual world.

/Here, heaven is the world where spirits live. /It is a place with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. /There is righteousness, peace and joy. /Romans 14:7 /In this way, religion in the Last Days will fall to hypocrisy and ritualism.

/Then they will not enter the spiritual world. /Churches do not properly teach about God. /Churches become secularized and ritualized.

/Verse 15. /“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are.

/The Pharisees and teachers of the law busily traveled around. /Then if they happened to win a single convert, they made him twice as much a son of hell as they are. /The Pharisees and teachers of the law first practiced hypocrisy. /Then church members followed them in their hypocrisy.

/If pastors are not conscientious, church members will twice as much not be conscientious. /If pastors walk in secularism, church members will become twice as much secularized.

/If a head of a household does not run forward in faith, other family members will retreat twice as much. /Therefore, leaders of faith must take the lead and run forward in faith. /Then the members of the church will follow.

/Verse 16. /Woe to you, blind guides! You say, ‘If anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’

/The Pharisees cherished the sacrifices more than the altar. /The Pharisees cherished the gold of the temple more than the temple itself. /This means that they indulged in materialism. /When religion falls, it becomes materialistic.

/Religions cherish materials. /They pursue materials. /Therefore, they were called blind guides. /Money became an idol. /The gold was more cherished than the temple.

/It is a fact that the altar is more important than the sacrifice. /The temple is more important than the gold of the temple. /Therefore, we must first open our spiritual

eyes. /We must consider the temple of God more important than materials. /The temple is important.

/To worship God is important. /God's glory is more important. /Isaiah 66:2-4
/Therefore, we must consider the holy temple more important.

/We must consider the spiritual temple more important. /We must build the church in accordance with God's will. /Haggai 2:8-9

/Verse 23. /Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices – mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law – justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.

/The Pharisees gave a tenth of their spices – mint, dill and cumin. /Yet, they neglected the more important matters of the law – justice, mercy and faithfulness. Mint, dill and cumin are medicinal plants. /These were very small things. /The Pharisees zealously gave these small things as tithes.

/Yet, the Pharisees neglected justice, mercy and faithfulness. /What is “justice?” /It is fairness. /It is righteousness. /It is what is right. / We must build what is right. / We must walk down the path of righteousness.

/Next, what is “mercy?” /It is love. /It is benevolence. /It is to love people and be merciful. /Next is “faithfulness.” /This is faith. /It is sincerity. /It is truth.

/This world is a world of betrayal. /Yet, those who serve God must remain faithful. / We must keep the promises we make. /We must faithfully keep the promises we make before God and before others. /2 Peter 3:14

/Here, in the passage, it says, “You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.” /“The latter” refers to justice, mercy and faithfulness. /“The former” refers to tithes. /Therefore, we must be just, merciful and faithful, and we must give tithes. /Malachi 3:8

/Tithes must be given also in the New Testament times. /If we give tithes to God, he will bless us. /Tithes belong to God. /If one does not give tithes, he is a thief.

/Verse 24. /You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.

/The Pharisees strained out a gnat but swallowed a camel. /“A gnat” refers to a small sin. /“A camel” refers to a great sin. /This shows that the Pharisees were afraid of committing small sins. /However, they had no problem committing great sins.

/If there were rights to benefits, they were unhesitant in committing great sins. /We must not take a camel, let alone a gnat. /If we do not want to commit small sins, we must most certainly not commit great sins.

/Verses 25-26. /“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-

indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.

/The outside of the cup and dish of the teachers of the law and Pharisees were clean. / This means they kept well the outwardly rituals. /They seemed clean on the outside. / However, their insides were filled with greed and self-indulgence.

/Their hearts were filled with greed and self-indulgence. /We must clean both our insides and outsides. /We must get rid of the greed in our hearts. /We must use our consciences to be clean.

/Verse 27. /“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men’s bones and everything unclean.

/The teachers of the law and Pharisees were like whitewashed tombs. /The Jews whitewashed the tombs. /Hence, the tombs appeared white and clean. /However, the insides of the tombs were full of dead men’s bones and things that were unclean.

/Likewise, the Pharisees were good at outwardly adorning themselves. /They were hypocritical. /They walked in the way of ritualism. /However, they were filled of greed and sins inside. /All sorts of unclean things were inside. /There were many rotten things.

/They were filled with unclean things inside. /They seemed holy on the outside. /However, they were filled with dirty things inside. /Therefore, Jesus rebuked the Pharisees.

/Today, we Christians must not look beautiful only on the outside. /Sanctuaries are built magnificently, /and many rituals and systems appear nice. /However, we must think about whether or not the inside is filled with envy, unlawfulness, and greed.

/We must contemplate whether we have envy, unlawfulness and greed in our hearts. / These sins must not be planted in the church. /We must not have these sins in our hearts.

/Verse 29. /“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You build tombs for the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous.

/The Pharisees and teachers of the law built tombs for the prophets. /They decorated the graves of the righteous. /They respected prophets of the past and righteous men. / However, they persecuted and killed prophets of the present and righteous men.

/The Pharisees respected the past prophets for their own popularities. /They decorated the graves of the righteous. /Then they boasted that they were descendants of righteous men. /Yet, they killed righteous men in the present.

/They persecuted righteous men in the present. /This was because if the popularities of true prophets grew, they would become less popular. /They persecuted righteous men at the time for their own benefits.

/They wanted to gain benefits by taking advantage of the names of the righteous men of the past. /They slandered and killed the righteous men and true prophets of their time. /James 5:6 /This is what the Pharisees did.

/Verse 30. /And you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'

/The Pharisees and teachers of the law acknowledged the wrongdoings of their forefathers, yet they did the same. /They acknowledged the wrongdoings of their forefathers.

/However, they did the same. /They killed the righteous, the prophets, and Christ. /They were like poisonous snakes that bit and killed people.

/Verse 34. /Therefore I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify; others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town.

/The Pharisees killed the prophets and the wise. /The Pharisees crucified and flogged them. /In the past, their forefathers killed the true prophets. /In the same way, the Pharisees killed the true prophets and the righteous men of their time.

/Verses 35-36. /And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. I tell you the truth, all this will come upon this generation.

/Abel was the first martyr. /He brought an acceptable offering before God. /God accepted his offering. /Cain became jealous of Abel and killed him. /Here it says, "Zechariah son of Berekiah."

/This man is Zechariah son of Jehoiada. /Zechariah was martyred while preaching God's Word. /2 Chronicles 24:20-22 /Here, it says that the father of Zechariah was Berekiah. /It is possible that Berekiah and Jehoiada were the same person.

/He seemed to have two names. /Zechariah was martyred. /It says, the blood of martyrs "will come upon this generation." /The sin of killing the true prophets will come upon the generation of the time.

/The generation is responsible for the sin of killing the martyrs. /Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because there were not ten righteous men. /In the time of Jesus, there were no righteous men that God sought.

/People nailed Jesus to the cross and crucified Him. /Then many people persecuted true prophets. /Therefore, people of the time had to pay for the sins of the time.

/Today, there are many who persecute true prophets. /There are many who persecute true pastors. /This generation will be responsible for the sins committed. /That is, if someone kills righteous men, he will be judged before God.

/Verses 37-38. /O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate.

/Jesus cried for Jerusalem. /It says a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. /In the same way, Jesus tried to gather the Israelites together several times.

/Jesus taught the Word of God. /The Lord told the people to repent. /He showed them the way to salvation.

/However, the Israelites rejected the Word. /They killed the prophets. /They persecuted the righteous. /They nailed Jesus to the cross and crucified Him.

/Verse 39. /For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

/This means that we will not see Jesus until His Second Coming. /We will see Jesus when He returns. /Jerusalem will be destroyed. /God's judgment will come.

/Jerusalem will receive great sufferings and hardships. /Jesus prophesied this. /Just as Jesus prophesied, Rome invaded Jerusalem in AD 70. /General Titus of Rome completely destroyed Jerusalem.

/Then the Israelites scattered throughout the world. /When one does not repent when Jesus tells him to, he will be judged.

/When the Lord calls us, we must respond to His calling. /We must not be hypocritical like the Pharisees and we must not reject God. /We must repent and return to God and be saved.

/Here we will conclude the sixteenth lecture on the gospel of Matthew. /Thank you.