



October 15, 2023

The Unleavened Life

Luke 12:1-7

Beware of the Hypocritical Leaven of the Pharisees and Scribes!

Leaven: an agent that causes the release of gas into the dough to make it rise

Hypocrisy: Fronting an image different than what is real on the inside in the service of manipulation

Leaven as influence (see **Matthew 16:6-12; Mark 8:15**); their hypocrisy makes their influence injurious

They trample over others in their selfishness disguised as piety (see **Luke 12:1 with 11:48,52; Matt 23:13**)

The Hypocrisy of the Pharisees and Scribes Exposed: Luke 11:37-54

- Pious external actions hiding internal greed and wickedness: **39-41**
- Attending to minutiae and ignoring the important: **42**
- Prioritizing positive public attention: **43**
- Negatively impacting others without the victims realizing it: **44**
- Not playing by the same rules as everyone else: **46**
- Seeking to capitalize on the very things of which they are culpable: **47-48**
- Hindering knowledge for self and others: **52**

Three Reasons to Reject Hypocrisy as a Mode of Life

ONE: All Things Shall Be Revealed, Hypocrisy Unmasked: v.2-3

The blabbering bird of Ecclesiastes 10:20: Like a ball underwater

Hypocrisy only works if something can be hidden

Everything, good and bad, will be brought into the light

An aside: differentiating hypocrisy from privacy

TWO: The Hidden Seed Becomes the Permanent Tree: v.4-5

There is a God from Whom no one can hide: fear Him!

God is not mocked; what a person sows they will reap

This God will “plant” one’s hidden reality as the only reality, upending the hypocritical mode

Gehenna as the place where garbage exists as the garbage it is

The selfish one becomes locked into himself; the proud one becomes immensely heavy

THREE: God Knows You and Cares for You: v.6-7

Such intimate knowledge: The hairs on your head (see **Psalms 139**)

He sees the real and loves you still

Undercuts the heart of the hypocritic motivation

Freedom to be real (honest and vulnerable) in light of God’s undergirding love and care