

Got Guilt 4

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Religion is full of people, all in an inescapable pit, judging each other about rules for pit dwelling.

Jesus is about emptying the pit!

Matthew 16:5-12 – 5 Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. 6 Then Jesus said to them, "**Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.**" 7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have taken no bread." 8 But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread? 9 Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? 10 Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up? 11 How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? — **but to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.**" 12 Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but **of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.**

The doctrine of the Pharisees was to work for your salvation and place your confidence in self, instead of Christ.

The doctrine of the Pharisee was to bury man under the burden of his sin, by asking him to lift an impossible weight.

Matthew 23:1-7 – Now Jesus turned to address his disciples, along with the crowd that had gathered with them. "The religion scholars and Pharisees are competent teachers in God's Law. You won't go wrong in following their teachings on Moses. But be careful about following them. They talk a good line, but they don't live it. They don't take it into their hearts and live it out in their behavior. It's all spit-and-polish veneer. Instead of giving you God's Law as food and drink by which you can banquet on God, they package it in bundles of rules, loading you down like pack animals. They seem to take pleasure in watching you stagger under these loads and wouldn't think of lifting a finger to help.

Until this issue is resolved our "good works" become "dead works."

Galatians 5:9 - "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough."

- The most dangerous thing about the yeast or leaven of the Pharisee is that it will work into your entire life.

- You won't be loving, forgiving, and gracious, but will demand that people "Earn" your favor, love, and acceptance.

Children will either rebel and dominate others or will become passive and be dominated.

- Under both conditions they will live in excruciating stress or cause it!
- This "leaven" will undermine every relationship in their lives.
- This "leaven" is the root of the tormenting life of perfectionism.

The leaven of the Pharisee was to draw you away from trusting Christ and him alone and to rely upon your own efforts and works to become "right" with god.

The leaven of the Pharisee caused people to become trapped in their sin, sorrow, and bondage.

Matthew 23:15 - You're hopeless, you religion scholars and Pharisees! Frauds! You go halfway around the world to make a convert, but once you get him you make him into a replica of yourselves, double-damned and twice a child of hell.

Jesus had strong views about the Pharisees and their impact upon god's people.

Matthew 23:24-28 - **24** You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.

25 "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.

26 Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. **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. **28** In the same way, on the outside **you appear to people as righteous (on the outside) but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.**

Jesus came to clean the inside of the cup!

John 3:16-17 – **16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **17** For God did not send His Son into the world **to condemn the world**, but that **the world through Him might be saved.**