Sermon Notes April 30, 2017

"Woe ... Is Me!" Matthew 23:23-28 Pastor Bill Hoffman

Put into your own words what Jesus is condemning in each of the seven "woes" of this chapter. In six of the seven "woes", Jesus refers to the religious leaders as "you hypocrites!" What is your working definition of a "hypocrite", and what/who are some examples?

Note Jesus' shocking and humorous images in these verses. As you apply Jesus' teaching in these lines to yourself, dwell on his images and allow yourself to laugh – at yourself! Doing so can be a step of robbing the sins Jesus describes of their power over us.

Read Matthew 23:37. What does this show about the motivation for Jesus' seeming harshness in this chapter? How can seeing this about Jesus – and also knowing of his sacrifice for sin on the Cross – motivate someone to turn from sin in their life?