

THE HEART OF SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP
Matthew 23:1-12 // November 10, 2024 PM

I. Flee self-exalting spiritual leadership (vv. 2-7).

II. Foster God-exalting spiritual leadership (vv. 8-12).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. Why do church leaders have the ability to bring about more harm in the church than anyone else?
2. Jesus begins His warning against the religious leaders by looking at their lives in vv. 2-3. What does he say about their practice? And how might this apply to the church today?
3. How had the temple leadership both added to and subtracted from the word? What was the result? Where do we see such addition and subtraction happening today?
4. What are motives, and do they matter? What motivated the scribes and Pharisees? Does that same motivation still tempt leaders in the church?
5. In vv. 8-10 is Jesus forbidding the use of all titles when addressing our leaders? How are we to understand this today?
6. What is the heart of spiritual leadership that honors God? How does such leadership reflect Christ?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. When a pastor or theologian I respected proved to be a hypocrite, how did that affect my perception of Christ, His gospel, and His church?
2. Can I explain how the religious leaders as the messengers, through their message, and with their motive were governed by self-exalting pride? In what ways can this pride evidence itself in my spheres of influence or authority?
3. What is the only way to be delivered from a heart of pride in order to possess a heart that can lead faithfully and fruitfully?