

THE REAL THING

Filled Up and Poured Out – Part 22

Mark 12:38-44

February 24, 2013

Jesus Condemned the Religious Teachers for:

1. Personal (pride) and a desire to be noticed and given special privileges

Jesus continued teaching and said, “Beware of the teachers of the law. They like to walk around wearing fancy clothes, and they love for people to greet them with respect in the marketplaces. They love to have the most important seats in the synagogues and at feasts.” – Mark 12:38-39 NCV

Pride lands you flat on your face; humility prepares you for honors. – Prov. 29:23 MSG

2. (Greed) and willingness to take advantage of others

“But they cheat widows and steal their houses....” – Mark 12:40a NCV

Speaking to the people, he went on, “Take care! Protect yourself against the least bit of greed. Life is not defined by what you have even when you have a lot.” – Luke 12:15 MSG

3. Spiritual (pretense)

“...and then try to make themselves look good by saying long prayers. They will receive a greater punishment.” – Mark 12:40b NCV

“You’re hopeless, you religion scholars and Pharisees! Frauds! You burnish the surface of your cups and bowls so they sparkle in the sun, while the insides are maggoty with your greed and gluttony. Stupid Pharisee! Scour the insides, and then the gleaming surface will mean something.” – Matthew 23:25-26 MSG

Jesus Praised the Widow Because She Was a Model of:

1. (Humility)

Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. – Mark 12:41-42 NLT

The greatest person in the kingdom of heaven is the one who makes himself humble like this child. – Mark 18:4 NCV

God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth. – Matthew 5:5 NLT

2. (Generosity)

Calling his followers to him, Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow gave more than those rich people. They gave only what they did not need. This woman is very poor, but she gave all she had.” – Mark 12:43-44a NCV

Generous people will be blessed because they share their food with the poor. – Proverbs 22:9 NCV

3. Genuine (trust) in God

“She gave all she had to live on.” – Mark 12:44b NCV

I was young, and now I am old, but I have never seen good people left helpless or their children begging for food. – Psalm 37:25 NCV