

A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a sandy, light-brown dirt road with visible tire tracks leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. The road is flanked by sparse, low-lying desert shrubs. In the background, a range of rugged, brown mountains rises against a pale, hazy sky. The overall tone is warm and desolate.

The Gospel of Matthew

WHY DID THE KING COME BUT NOT THE KINGDOM?

II. THE KINGDOM HAS NOT 13:54-28:20

6. The Formal Presentation and Rejection of the King, 19:3 – 25:46

(Matthew 23:13-39 Pt. 2)

*“Public Pronouncement of
Judgment: 7 WOE’s”*

Preliminaries:

➤ “woe” 7 x’s

- Interjection denoting pain or displeasure
- When used w/dative of person concerning whom pain is expressed – BDAG
- i.e. an expression of lament
- Common among OT Prophets: (see chart)
- Here it is used as a series of indictments

Preliminaries: “Woe” cf. Isaiah 5:8-23

- God’s disappointing vineyard 5:1-7
(cf. Mt. 20:1-16 “parable of the laborers”)

Isaiah’s 6 “woes”

- 1) Greed and oppression v. 8-10
- 2) Indulgence vv. 11-17
- 3) Hypocrisy vv. 18-19
- 4) Moral reversal v. 20
- 5) Arrogance and pride v. 21
- 6) Injustice vv. 22-23

Preliminaries:

- “woe” 7 x’s
- “Scribes and Pharisees” 7 x’s (directly or pronoun)
 - **Scribes** – An expert in Jewish law. They were educated men who were responsible for copying, interpreting, and teaching the law, as well as settling legal disputes within the religious community.

Preliminaries:

- “woe” 7 x’s
- “Scribes and Pharisees” 7 x’s (directly or pronoun)
 - **Scribes** –
 - **Pharisees** – The most prominent Jewish group known for their strict adherence to both the written Torah and their body of oral traditions.

Preliminaries:

- “woe” 7 x’s
- “Scribes and Pharisees” 7 x’s (directly or pronoun)
- “hypocrites” 6 x’s (v. 16 excluded)

Context:

The religious and political leaders attempted to charge Jesus with crimes by entangling Him in His words. Jesus is now going to turn the table on them!

1. Woe: Closing the kingdom vv. 13-14
 2. Woe: Collecting the lost v. 15
 3. Woe: Cheapening their testimony vv. 16-22
 4. Woe: Compromising the law vv. 23-24
 5. Woe: Cleansing the outside vv. 25-26
 6. Woe: Changing righteousness vv. 27-28
 7. Woe: Condemning themselves vv. 29-36
- Summary: vv. 37-39

1. Woe: Closing the kingdom vv. 13-14

A. Determining what it says:

- Address v. 13a
- Guilty party v. 13b
 - “you shut up the kingdom”

“you shut up the kingdom” (κλείετε)

= to prevent passage at an opening – BDAG

- Noun form κλεις (Used in Mt. 16:19 “keys of the kingdom”)
- Using “Moses’ seat” they had the keys and locked the kingdom!
- This is why total rejection wasn’t the culprit their leadership was.

1. Woe: Closing the kingdom vv. 13-14

A. Determining what it says:

- Address v. 13a
- Guilty party v. 13b
 - “you shut up the kingdom”
 - “you neither go in”
 - “nor do you allow those who are entering to go in”

1. Woe: Closing the kingdom vv. 13-14

A. Determining what it says:

- Address v. 13a
- Guilty party v. 13b
- V. 14?
 - Happened (cf. Lk. 20:47; Mk. 12:40)
 - Penalty for afflicting Widows and orphans is death (cf. Ex. 22:22-24)
 - Matthew excluded this verse for argument reasons.

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2. Woe: Collecting the lost v. 15

A. Determining what it says:

- Lost seeking the lost v. 15a
- Double lost? v. 15b
- “son of hell” (Gehenna) v. 15b

Outline –

1. Woe: Closing the kingdom vv. 13-14
 2. Woe: Collecting the lost v. 15
 3. **Woe: Cheapening their testimony vv. 16-22**
 4. Woe: Compromising the law vv. 23-24
 5. Woe: Cleansing the outside vv. 25-26
 6. Woe: Changing righteousness vv. 27-28
 7. Woe: Condemning themselves vv. 29-36
- Summary: vv. 37-39

3. Woe: Cheapening their testimony vv. 16-22

A. Determining what it says:

- “blind guides” v. 16a
 - Cf. Bibliology study on blindness (2 Cor. 3:7-16)

- Violating “false testimony” command vv. 16b-22 (Cf. Ex. 20:16; Mt. 5:33-37)

Outline –

1. Woe: Closing the kingdom vv. 13-14
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 4. **Woe: Compromising the law vv. 23-24**
 5. Woe: Cleansing the outside vv. 25-26
 6. Woe: Changing righteousness vv. 27-28
 7. Woe: Condemning themselves vv. 29-36
- Summary: vv. 37-39

4. Woe: Compromising the law vv. 23-24

A. Determining what it says:

- External conformity and not true intent of the law v. 23
- Gnat and Camel merism v. 24

Outline –

1. Woe: Closing the kingdom vv. 13-14
 2. Woe: Collecting the lost v. 15
 3. Woe: Cheapening their testimony vv. 16-22
 4. Woe: Compromising the law vv. 23-24
 5. **Woe: Cleansing the outside vv. 25-26**
 6. Woe: Changing righteousness vv. 27-28
 7. Woe: Condemning themselves vv. 29-36
- Summary: vv. 37-39

5. Woe: Cleansing the outside vv. 25-26

A. Determining what it says:

- Cleansing the outside v. 25a
 - Historical context: extent of cleansing the dish and filling it with luxury
- Exposing the inside v. 25b
- Purity principle v. 26 (reaping and sowing illustration)

Outline –

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 3. Woe: Cheapening their testimony vv. 16-22
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6. Woe: Changing righteousness vv. 27-28

A. Determining what it says:

- Beauty and honourous appearance v. 27
 - Touching a cadaver (and in rabbinic law a grave) made one unclean for 7 days. (Cf. Num. 19:16)
 - So, they would paint over graves to provide a layer of protection.
- Death and odorous reality v. 28

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7. Woe: Condemning themselves vv. 29-36

Summary: vv. 37-39

7. Woe: Condemning themselves vv. 29-36

A. Determining what it says:

- 1) They celebrate the righteous v. 29
- 2) Their claim v. 30
- 3) Their self-incrimination v. 31
- 4) They're given over v. 32 (cf. Rom. 1)
- 5) Their sentencing v. 33
- 6) Their guilt vv. 34-35 (cf. Mt. 21:38)
- 7) Their expedited sentence v. 36

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Summary: vv. 37-39

Summary: vv. 37-39

A. Determining what it says:

- The City v. 37
- The Temple v. 38
- The Messiah v. 39

Application/Summary:

1. Closed the kingdom on interested parties
2. Further condemned those already lost
3. They violated the law on false testimony
4. They violated the law on giving
5. They violated the law on purity
6. They are liable for temporal punishment
7. They are liable for eternal punishment



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