

The Righteousness Of The Pharisees

“For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:20

Matthew 5:20 – How can we _____ the Pharisees’ _____?

A Brief Background Study Of The Pharisees

- A. The origin and religious stance of the Pharisees:
1. They emerged about _____ years before Christ. “Pharisee” means _____. Josephus stated there were about _____ of them in the days of the early church.
 2. They kept the _____ of Moses as well as _____ teachings of the rabbis. They frequently clashed with _____.
- B. Not all Pharisees opposed Jesus:
1. John 3:1,2 - _____ knew that Jesus was from _____ because of the _____ Jesus did.
 2. Acts 15:5 – Some from the _____ of the Pharisees had become _____.

How Christians Must Exceed The Pharisees’ Righteousness

- A. Matthew 23: Some of the errors of the Pharisees Jesus noted:
1. 23:2-4 – Jesus pointed to their _____. They did not _____ what they _____.
 2. 23:5-7 – They had a strong need to be _____ by _____.
 3. 23:16-19 – They focused on the _____ things instead of on the _____ things.
 4. 23:23,24 – They were meticulous in _____ but neglected the _____ matters of the _____.
 5. 23:25-28 – They focused on _____ appearance, but neglected the _____ condition.
 6. 23:29-31 – They _____ God’s messengers.
 7. Matthew 9:32-34 – They attributed Jesus’ _____ to cast out _____ to the _____ of demons.
- B. Jesus shows that our righteousness must not be merely _____ but especially from the _____.

Philippians 3:8,9 – Our righteousness cannot be our _____, but must come through _____ in _____.

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