

Hypocrisy

Hypocrite - hupokrites (hoop-ok-ree-tace'); an actor under an assumed character (stage-player)

Hypocrites are recognized by their distorted purposes –

In their good deeds - Matt 6:2 "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, **TO BE HONORED BY MEN**. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.

When they pray - Matt 6:5 "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners **TO BE SEEN BY MEN**. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.

They like to “look” the part instead of “Being” the part –

Matt 23:25 "**WOE TO YOU**, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. NASU

Matt 23:27-28 - 27 "**WOE TO YOU**, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. 28 "So you, too, OUTWARDLY APPEAR RIGHTEOUS TO MEN, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. NASU

Let's recognize hypocrisy and hypocrites

Hypocrites can see worldly signs clearly, but tend to miss the true message of God - Luke 12:54-56 - 54 He said to the crowd: "When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, 'It's going to rain,' and it does. 55 And when the south wind blows, you say, 'It's going to be hot,' and it is. 56 **Hypocrites!** You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time?"

A hypocrite sees righteousness only based on how they see it, NOT on what God says - Luke 13:15-16 - 15 The Lord answered him, "**YOU HYPOCRITES!** Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? 16 Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

Hypocrites will pick and choose what is important and what is not instead of Just obeying God- Matt 23:23 "**Woe to you**, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites!** For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things **you should have done WITHOUT NEGLECTING THE OTHERS**. NASU

Hypocrites see other people's issues without recognizing their own - Matt 7:1-5 - "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. 2 For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 3 "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? 4 How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? 5 **YOU HYPOCRITE**, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Hypocrites don't worship God Holy and pleasing, but worship in THEIR OWN beliefs and traditions - Matt 15:3-9 - 3 Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? 4 For **God said**, 'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.' 5 **But you say** that if a man says to his father or mother, 'Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is a gift devoted to God,' 6 he is not to 'honor his father' with it. Thus **you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition**. 7 **YOU HYPOCRITES!** Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: 8 "**These people honor me with their lips**, but **their hearts are far from me**. 9 **THEY WORSHIP ME IN VAIN**; their teachings are but rules taught by men."

*****WARNING*** Teachings of hypocrites is the reason many are misled** - Luke 12:1 - Meanwhile, when a crowd of many thousands had gathered, so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples, saying: "**BE ON YOUR GUARD AGAINST the yeast of the Pharisees, WHICH IS HYPOCRISY**."

Hypocrisy - hupokrisis (hoop-ok'-ree-sis); acting under a insincere part, i.e. (figuratively) deceit & concealment.

Living as a hypocrite is a path to Hell and leads others to Hell –

Matt 23:13-15 - 13 "But **woe to you**, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites**, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. 14 ["**Woe to you**, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites**, because you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore **you will receive GREATER CONDEMNATION**."] 15 "**Woe to you**, scribes and Pharisees, **hypocrites**, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you **make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves**. NASU

Matt 24:51 He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place WITH THE HYPOCRITES, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Hypocrisy is what all Christians are to rid themselves of - 1 Peter 2:1-3 - Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, HYPOCRISY, envy, and slander of every kind. 2 Like newborn babies, crave PURE spiritual milk, SO THAT by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

To avoid all forms of hypocrisy, ALL Christians must be genuine and sincere IN THE LORD –

True sincerity is in God only - 2 Cor 1:12 Now this is our boast: Our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and SINCERITY THAT ARE FROM GOD. We have done so **NOT according to worldly wisdom** but according to God's grace.

We become sincere by complete obedience to God - 1 Peter 1:22 Now that you have purified yourselves BY OBEYING THE TRUTH SO THAT you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.