

MATT. 5:20 - "LIVING AT A WHOLE 'NOTHER LEVEL"

I. WHO WERE THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES?

A. The Scribes – determined the rules of conduct and behavior

B. The Pharisees – first were called “_____”; but later changed their name to Pharisees – “separatists”

The Scribes were the interpreters of the Law, and the Pharisees were the enforcers.

II. LIVING AT A WHOLE 'NOTHER LEVEL

A. Our actions must match our _____. Matthew 23:2-4 - "The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them." (Matt. 7:21)

B. Our “aim” must be to please _____, not to be noticed by others. Matthew 23:5-7 "Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; ⁷they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them 'Rabbi.'" (Matt. 6:1)

C. We must be guided by _____, not details. Matthew 23:23-24. Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cummin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.”

D. We must remember that God is more concerned with our _____. The Pharisees were focused on the external – God focuses on the _____
Matt. 23:23

God is more concerned with our _____. I Sam. 16:17 – “man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart.” Jer. 31:33 – “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts”

God knows outward _____ starts internally - Matthew 15:19

How we live is an expression of our _____ for God.

