

DO I HAVE TO LOVE EVERYONE?

Religion Gone Wrong – Part 1 of 3

August 18, 2024

"Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees." Luke 12:1b (NIV)

TOXIC TRAITS

(How to spot a Pharisee)

• _____
"The Pharisee was shocked and somewhat offended when he saw that Jesus didn't wash up before the meal." Luke 11:38 (MSG)

• _____
"...they don't practice what they preach." Matthew 23:3 (NIV)

• _____
"They pile up back-breaking burdens and lay them on other people's shoulders -- yet they themselves will not raise a finger to move them." Matthew 23:4 (Ph)

• _____
"The Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words."
Matthew 22:15 (NIV)

Jesus: "You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!" Matthew 23:24 (NIV)

• _____
"The Pharisees said, 'It is by the prince of demons that Jesus drives out demons.'
Matthew 9:34 (NIV)

• _____ **BY ASSOCIATION**
"The Pharisees complained that Jesus was associating with despicable people— even eating with them!" Luke 15:2 (NLT '96)

• _____ **& RIDICULE**
"He who belittles and despises his neighbor lacks sense."
Proverbs 11:12 (Amp Classic)

• _____
"Flattery is a form of hatred and wounds cruelly." Proverbs 26:28 (LB)
"Such people are not serving Christ our Lord; they are serving their own personal interests. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive innocent people." Romans 16:18 (NLT '96)

• _____ **& PRESSURE**
"Some Pharisees badgered him (Jesus) again, pressing him to prove himself to them." Matthew 16:1 (MSG)

• _____
“Anyone who spreads gossip is a fool.” **Proverbs 10:18b (GN)**

WHAT TURNS PEOPLE TOXIC?

• _____ & _____
“He (Pilate) knew that they had handed him over because of envy.” **Mark 15:10 (NKJV)**

• _____
“When the Pharisees heard this, they made fun of Jesus, because they loved money.” **Luke 16:14 (GN)**

• BITTERNESS FROM _____ GOD’S GRACE

“Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many.” **Hebrews 12:15 (NLT)**

FIRST STEPS

1. REALIZE IT’S NOT ABOUT _____

“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”

Romans 12:18 (NIV)

- I didn’t _____ IT
- I can’t _____ IT
- I won’t _____ IT

2. _____ & LET THEM GO

“The Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus. Aware of this, Jesus withdrew from that place.” **Matthew 12:14-15a (NIV)**

“The disciples came and asked, ‘Do you realize you offended the Pharisees by what you just said?’ Jesus replied, ‘...ignore them. They’re blind guides leading the blind...’” **Matthew 15:12-14 (NLT)**

3. _____ TO PLAY THEIR GAME

“Then the Pharisees met together to think of a way to trap Jesus into saying something for which they could accuse him... But Jesus knew their evil motives.

‘You hypocrites!’ he said. ‘Whom are you trying to fool with your trick questions?’”

Matthew 22:15-18 (NLT ‘96)

4. SET _____

“Freedom is what we have—Christ has set us free! Stand, then, as free people, and do not allow yourselves to become slaves again.” **Galatians 5:1 (GN)**

5. LIVE FOR AN AUDIENCE OF _____

“We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.”

1 Thessalonians 2:4b (NIV)