The Real Dangers of Hypocrisy

Matthew 23:1-12

The Setting

This passage comes right after Jesus asked the Pharisees the ultimate question: *"What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?"* (22:42).

The Danger of Saying but Not Doing (vv. 2–3)

To myself: Knowledge without _____ is self-deception (James 1:22).

To my family and children: Nothing _____ children faster than hypocrisy at home.

To my church: A church that only says but does not ___ will never shine as light in the world.

To my sphere of influence: Saying but not doing discredits the _____ before a watching world.

The Danger of Legalism (v. 4)

This is the essence of legalism:

It adds _____ God never commanded, binding consciences where He left them free.

It measures godliness by _____, creating a false holiness of outward performance.

And it divorces God's law from God's _____, painting Him as a harsh taskmaster instead of a loving Father who commands for our thriving.

But here's the truth:

While Legalism _____ the law, Scripture _____ in it.

While Legalism _____, Jesus _____.

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest … My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matt. 11:28–30)

The Danger of Living for Man's Applause (vv. 5–7)

The Pharisees' religion was _____ …

And here is the intoxicating nature of applause:

It gives a false sense of _____ …

It offers a delusional, destructive _____ …

It becomes _____ …

It rips us apart at our core and is ultimately _____ …

It leads to painful _____ …

The Danger of Self-Exaltation (vv. 8–12)

_____ and _____ cannot coexist.

Here's why:

Hypocrisy _____; humility lives in the light.

Hypocrisy craves _____; humility embraces equality.

Hypocrisy seeks _____; humility seeks to serve.

Hypocrisy exalts _____; humility exalts Christ.

They cannot live together. If hypocrisy rules, humility dies. If humility rules, hypocrisy dies. One will choke the other.

Conclusion:

The greatest danger of hypocrisy is that it lets us _____ and feel safe doing it.

But Jesus tears the mask away—not to shame us, but to _____ us.

Dr. Paul Thompson
Calvary Baptist Church
September 21, 2025

Sunday, September 21

10am Worship

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Adoration ..... Paul Thompson

Isaiah 25:1-9

25 *O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.* [2] *For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the foreigners' palace is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt.* [3] *Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you.* [4] *For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat; for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall,* [5] *like heat in a dry place. You subdue the noise of the foreigners; as heat by the shade of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless is put down.* [6] *On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.* [7] *And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.* [8] *He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.* [9] *It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."*

Behold Our God

Life Defined

Lord I Need You

Prayer ..... Dan Tankersley

Scripture Reading ..... Steven Wilson

Psalm 119:33-40

[33] *Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end.* [34] *Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.* [35] *Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.* [36] *Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain!* [37] *Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.* [38] *Confirm to your servant your promise, that you may be feared.* [39] *Turn away the reproach that I dread, for your rules are good.* [40] *Behold, I long for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life!*

Offering

Speak Oh Lord

Message ..... Paul Thompson

The Real Dangers of Hypocrisy
Matthew 23:1-12

Christ Is Mine Forevermore

Benediction ..... Jed Downs

Romans 5:1-2; 15:13

5 *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.* [2] *Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

[13] *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

5pm Worship

Scripture Reading & Prayer ..... Steven Wilson

Romans 8:38-39

[38] *For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,* [39] *nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

God Is For Us

Blessed Assurance (All My Attempts To Be Satisfied)

Build My Life

Corporate Prayer ..... Eric Donop

Message ..... Paul Thompson

Our Foundation for the Fight
Ephesians 6:14-15

The Church's One Foundation

DadFest: Celebrating Fatherhood Together

Saturday, October 4 | 9am-4pm | Covenant UMC

Wiregrass Hope Group invites all men to join them for *DadFest*, a one-day conference designed to encourage and equip men in their calling as fathers and Kingdom leaders. The day will feature teaching, breakout sessions, fellowship, and worship.

Cost is $10 and includes a box lunch. Learn more and sign up at supportwiregrasshope.com/DadFest/.

New Sunday Night Sermon Series

Recent events remind us with sobering clarity that the Christian life is not a playground but a battlefield. The martyrdom of Charlie Kirk shows us that faith in Christ can be costly—even unto death. Yet Scripture assures us we are not left unarmed or alone. In Ephesians 6, Paul calls us to take up the whole armor of God so that, in the evil day, we may stand firm—grounded in truth and righteousness, guarded by faith and salvation, and armed with the Spirit's Word and prayer.

Join us tonight for the second message **"Our Foundation for the Fight"** (Ephesians 6:14-15).

Pray for the Guatemala Mission Trip

October 3-8

Participants: Tyler Bartlett, Matt & Kimberly Childree, Dave Lindey, Samantha Raney, and Katrina Schuman

Handbell Choir

Interested in playing handbells? We would love to have you! Handbell Choir **meets Wednesdays at 5pm** in the Choir Room. For more information, contact rebekah@calvarydothan.com.

Dad and Kids Campout

October 24-25 | Woodham/Weatherly Farm

Pack your tents and gather your camping gear, it's time for the Dad and Kids Campout! Mark your calendars, invite a friend, and come ready for a fun-filled night under the stars.

D-Now Weekend: How The West Was Won

November 21-23 | 6th-12th Grade

Register online at calvarydothan.com now through November 9.

High School Winter Retreat

February 13-16, 2026 | Shocco Springs

9th-12th Graders, mark your calendar for Winter Retreat at Shocco Springs.

Student Life Camp

June 8-12, 2026 | Lee University: Cleveland, TN

Students in grades 6-12, don't miss this incredible summer experience.

CrossCon26

January 5-7, 2026 | Louisville, KY

A conference for 18-25 year olds

Register online at calvarydothan.com by 10/26/25.

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

_____

_____

_____

_____

My Decision Today:

❑ I trusted Jesus as Savior.

❑ I'd like to join Calvary Baptist Church.

❑ I believe God is calling me into ministry/mission.

❑ Please have a pastor or elder contact me.

If you would like to speak with someone about one of the items noted above, please visit the Next Steps Kiosk before you leave today.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

❑ Pastors & Prayer Team Only

❑ Churchwide

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Connect Card

September 21, 2025

Please complete this tab, tear it off and drop it in an offering plate, or in the boxes by the exits.

❑ Please update my information
❑ Please contact me about membership

I am a:
❑ First Time Guest ❑ Attender
❑ Member

_____
Name

_____
Address

_____
City

_____
State/Zip

❑ Male ❑ Female

❑ Married ❑ Single

_____
Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

_____
Home Phone

_____
Cell Phone

_____
Spouse

_____
Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Children:

_____
Name / Date of Birth

_____
Name / Date of Birth

_____
Name / Date of Birth

_____
Name / Date of Birth

Please complete the additional information on the back of this tab, if applicable.

September 21, 2025

September Missions Spotlight
Wiregrass Hope (Local Mission Partner)

Wiregrass Hope's mission is to share the hope of Christ, promote human life, and care for people through pregnancy resources, biblical counseling, and relationship education. Their vision is to build a healthy community where individuals and families value life and thrive because of the love and grace of Christ. If you would like to know more about the ministry work of Wiregrass Hope, visit facebook.com/wiregrasshopegroup. Prayer needs for Wiregrass Hope can be found on prayer cards at the missions kiosk in the Fellowship Center foyer.

Good Churches (Global Mission Partner)

Good Churches partners with churches and individuals in the USA to support and provide church-based programs that train national, indigenous pastors in strategic cities with massive gospel needs. The primary aim of Good Churches is to plant good churches efficiently and effectively among the unreached. If you would like to learn more about the work of Good Churches, visit goodchurches.org. Pick up a prayer card for prayer needs at the missions kiosk in the Fellowship Center foyer.

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Calvary

901 Montezuma Avenue
Dothan, AL 36303
Church Office 334.792.5159
Weekday Ministry 334.793.9898

THE PEOPLE CAME...
September 14
Life Group: 497
10:00 Worship: 700
5:00 Worship: 198
Hispanic Church: 119
Neighborhood Church (NY): 25

THE PEOPLE GAVE...
General Fund
Given September 14: $51,477.30
Given Y-T-D Surplus (Deficit):
($178,066.31) as of 08/31/25

BIBLE READING PLAN
September 21-27
○ Isa 2-3, Gal 2
○ Isa 4-6, Gal 3
○ Isa 7-9, Gal 4
○ Isa 10-12, Gal 5
○ Isa 13-15, Gal 6
○ Isa 16-20, Eph 1-2

STAFF ON CALL
Sunday, September 21:
Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791
Saturday, September 27:
Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765
Sunday, September 28:
Dan Tankersley | 334-655-8765

SERMON SCHEDULE
Sunday, September 28

10am
Religion that Damns
Matthew 23:13-36
Message by Paul Thompson

5pm
Our Defense in the Fire
Ephesians 6:16-17a
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday Schedule

8:30am	Life Groups & Open Classes
10:00am	Worship, Sanctuary Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5, Chapel (except 1st Sunday)
5:00pm	Family Worship, Sanctuary Childcare for Babies-K3

Wednesday Schedule

6:00pm	Open Classes, D-Groups, & ESL Classes Birth-K5, Preschool Bldg Grades 1-5, Chapel Grades 6-12, Student Room
7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

I'm New Here
We're so glad you've joined us for worship today and would love to be able to share more with you about our church.

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code or you can fill out the Connect Card in this bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

Also, be sure to stop by our Next Steps table in the foyer after the service for a gift from us!

How to Become a Christian
Want more information about how to become a Christian? Go to calvarydothan.com/how-to-become-a-christian/.

If you would like to view a pdf of today's AM sermon notes, go to calvarydothan.com/messages.

Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson	Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain	Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley	Discipleship Pastor
Steven Wilson	Interim Worship
Tommy Perry	Missions
Joyce Alexander	Preschool
Josh Robertson	Children
Stephanie Tankersley	Children's Worship
Reagan Farris	Students
Randy Hunt	Senior Adults
Zach Daniels	Resident Church Planter

Lay Elders
Eric Donop
Jed Downs
David Glover
Dave Lindey
Sam Tarwater
Ian Worrell

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

- Matthew 11:30matthew

WELCOME TO
Calvary
BAPTIST CHURCH