

# THE ONE YEAR BIBLE CLUB

WITH TEACHING COMMENTARY BY NICK BOORK

Get the Daily Devotional Podcast!

<http://www.oneyearbibleclub.com>

## January 24 – Matthew 15:29-16:12

Jesus departed from there, skirted the Sea of Galilee, and went up on the mountain and sat down there. <sup>30</sup> Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, and He healed them. <sup>31</sup> So the multitude marveled when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel. <sup>32</sup> Now Jesus called His disciples to Himself and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way." <sup>33</sup> Then His disciples said to Him, "Where could we get enough bread in the wilderness to fill such a great multitude?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few little fish." <sup>35</sup> So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. <sup>36</sup> And He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude. <sup>37</sup> So they all ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets full of the fragments that were left. <sup>38</sup> Now those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children. <sup>39</sup> And He sent away the multitude, got into the boat, and came to the region of Magdala.

**16** Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven. <sup>2</sup> He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red'; <sup>3</sup> and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times. <sup>4</sup> A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah." And He left them and departed. <sup>5</sup> Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. <sup>6</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." <sup>7</sup> And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have taken no bread." <sup>8</sup> But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread? <sup>9</sup> Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? <sup>10</sup> Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up? <sup>11</sup> How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread?—but to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." <sup>12</sup> Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

## OKAY, HERE'S MY TEACHING COMMENTARY

In today's reading I want us to focus on Jesus teaching concerning the warning to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees. The disciples thought that Jesus was talking about

# THE ONE YEAR BIBLE CLUB

WITH TEACHING COMMENTARY BY NICK BOORK

Get the Daily Devotional Podcast!

<http://www.oneyearbibleclub.com>

natural bread that we eat because they forgot to bring bread on the journey. However, Jesus took the opportunity to remind them that God always provides. When they were serving with him, God provided for them miraculously because they picked up large baskets full of bread after Jesus blessed it and multiplied it at two outreaches when He fed 5000 people on one occasion and 4000 people on another. When Jesus said beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees, he wasn't speaking about natural bread he was speaking about their teachings and beliefs. Jesus used a very interesting word to describe the teachings of the Pharisees and Sadducees. He used the word **“leaven”**. **What is leaven?**

1. An agent, such as yeast, that causes batter or dough to rise, especially by fermentation.
2. An element, influence, or agent that works subtly to lighten, enliven, or modify a whole.

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/leaven>

What Jesus was saying was beware of the false teachings of the Pharisees and Sadducees because they're teachings or doctrines will influence people's lives just like leaven once put into dough influences it to rise.

- The teachings that we listen to influence what we believe.
- What we believe influences our behavior.
- Our behavior determines our character.

Now let's look at some of the specific teachings of the Pharisees and Sadducees:

## **First let's look at the Pharisees.**

Jesus said in Luke 12:1-2 “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. <sup>2</sup> For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. 1: a person who puts on a false appearance of [virtue](#) or religion 2: a person who acts in contradiction to his or her stated beliefs or feelings Merriam Webster’s Definition of HYPOCRITE

In Matthew chapter 23 Jesus confronts the Pharisees and rebukes them strongly for their hypocrisy. He said in verse 25 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. <sup>26</sup> Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.

According to Jesus, it's pure hypocrisy if we put on the appearance of being righteous without first cleansing our hearts and our souls and our minds. The great danger of hypocritical leaders is that they reproduce after their kind! Jesus said that's exactly what the Pharisees do through their teachings, reproduce hypocrites like themselves. Listen to what Jesus said about this in Matthew 23 verse 15 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and

# THE ONE YEAR BIBLE CLUB

WITH TEACHING COMMENTARY BY NICK BOORK

Get the Daily Devotional Podcast!

<http://www.oneyearbibleclub.com>

sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, **you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.** The truth is, we produce whatever we are. This is why the apostle Paul told Timothy a young pastor he was mentoring, that he needed to be careful about his lifestyle and his doctrine to ensure his own salvation and the salvation of those that heard him. 1 Timothy 4:16

## Now let's take a look at the Sadducees.

The Sadducees were the temple Priests. Acts 5:17 "Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him," (which is the sect of the Sadducees,)...What was it about the Sadducees teaching that Jesus warned his disciples about? **It was unbelief.** The Sadducees believe that there was no resurrection nor angels nor spirits. In other words they denied the power of God and the supernatural. Acts 23:8 For Sadducees say that there is no resurrection—and no angel or spirit; but the Pharisees confess both. Matthew 22:23, 29 "The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection...<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God." The Sadducees didn't take the Holy Scriptures which is the Word of God, seriously. They didn't have faith in God. All they had was a formalistic ceremonial outward observance of Judaism. The Sadducees were in fact dead in their religion.

**Jesus is warning us that we have to beware of becoming hypocritical like the Pharisees and we have to beware of becoming unbelieving like the Sadducees.** Two ways we can defeat the doctrine of the Pharisees and the Sadducees in our own lives:

**To defeat the doctrine of the Pharisees we need to:** First commit to live sincere lives in the truth. How do you do this? The Bible teaches in Romans chapter 12:1-2 that were to offer up our bodies to God as living sacrifices, holy, acceptable, which is our reasonable act of spiritual worship. We are not to be conformed to this world but transformed by the renewing of our minds that we may prove the good, acceptable and perfect will of God for our lives.

First, make a decision to dedicate your body to God in holiness and renew your mind to think like God. The reality is, if you practice this daily you won't just be a Christian going through the motions you will be a transformed Christian from the inside out living to please God. Second, pray for God's help to live the truth. (Heb. 4:14-16)

The apostle Paul prayed a prayer that we can all pray to live a sincere Christian life found in Philippians 1:9-11 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; <sup>10</sup>That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be **sincere** and without offence till the day of Christ. <sup>11</sup>Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God." Personalize this prayer and pray it from your heart. The Lord will answer this prayer because it is His will. I pray it frequently for my own life.

# THE ONE YEAR BIBLE CLUB

WITH TEACHING COMMENTARY BY NICK BOORK

Get the Daily Devotional Podcast!

<http://www.oneyearbibleclub.com>

**To defeat the doctrine of the Sadducees we need to decide to live by faith.** The Bible says we walk by faith and not by sight and without faith it's impossible to please God. (Ref; 1 Cor. 5:7, Heb. 11:6) So how do we grow our faith?

1) The Bible says faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God Romans 10:17. Decide to read the Bible and believe what it says. Don't live in doubt but have faith in God and his Word and promises.

2) Additionally, make sure that you're in a church that believes in the full Gospel of Jesus Christ not denying anything written in the Word of God. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are for today and all the ministry gifts are functioning in the Body of Christ today.

3) Follow leaders that believe, preach and practice the New Testament.

## PRAYER TO APPLY THE WORD OF GOD TO OUR LIVES



### ORDINATION

We provide Ministry Credentials and Ordination through Diamond Ministerial Association. Click to learn more and apply!

<http://www.diamondinstitute.org/ordination>



### ONLINE COURSES

For Bible courses and ministry resources see our online school Diamond Institute. Enroll free today!

<http://www.diamondinstitute.org/enroll>