

HIGH IMPACT CHRISTIANITY
Part 4: WHO ME - A HYPOCRITE?
June 24, 2007

"Teach me Your way, O Lord, and I will walk in Your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear Your name."
Psalm 86:11 (NIV)

HYPOCRITE

A person who feigns to be what he or she is not, or to feel what they do not feel; especially the false assumption of an appearance of virtue or religion.

FOUR MASKS I MUST NOT WEAR

1. THE MASK OF _____ OVER _____

"Then Jesus said to the crowds and to His disciples, "The teachers of religious law and the Pharisees are the official interpreters of the Scriptures. So practice and obey whatever they say to you, but don't follow their example. For they don't practice what they teach. They crush you with impossible religious demands and never lift a finger to help ease the burden."

Matthew 23:1-4 (NLT)

"Why do you call me, "Lord, Lord," and do not do what I say?" Luke 6:46 (NIV)

- What is the TRUTH about what I say I believe and what I do?

- What do I need to do to bring TRUTH to my beliefs and my actions? _____

2. THE MASK OF _____ OVER _____

"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; they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them "Rabbi". But you are not to be called "Rabbi", for you have only one Master and you are all brothers. And do not call anyone on earth "father", for you have one Father, and He is in heaven. Nor are you to be called "teacher", for you have one Teacher, the Christ."

Matthew 23:5-10 (NIV)

"The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and

whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

Matthew 23:11-12 (NIV)

- What is the TRUTH about my reputation and the reality of my life? _____

- What do I need to do to bring TRUTH to who I really am and how I appear to others?

3. THE MASK OF _____ WITHOUT _____ -

"Woe to you, blind guides! You say, "If anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath." You blind fools! Which is greater: the gold, or the temple that makes the gold sacred? You also say, "If anyone swears by the altar, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the gift on it, he is bound by his oath." You blind men! Which is greater: the gift, or the altar that makes the gift sacred? Therefore, he who swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it." Matthew 23:16-20 (NIV)

"Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, "Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord. But I tell you, Do not swear at all ... Simply let your "Yes" be "Yes", and your "No", "No"; anything beyond this comes from the evil one." Matthew 5:33-35, 37 (NIV)

- What is the TRUTH about my word? Can others rely on me to keep my word? _____

- Who am I most likely to "forget a promise" or bend my word to? Why is that? _____

- What excuse do I typically give for not doing what I said I would do? _____

- What can I do to bring TRUTH to my word? _____

4. THE MASK OF _____ WITHOUT RIGHT _____

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but the inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will also be clean. Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are

full of hypocrisy and wickedness.”

Matthew 23:25-28 (NIV)

“... the Lord searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts.”

I Chronicles 28:9 (NIV)

- What is the TRUTH about my motives? Am I motivated to serve others by a love of God and others? Or do I serve with an expectation of something in return? _____

- How important is it for my acts of service to get noticed? _____

- How necessary is it for me to receive praise or recognition in order to continue serving?
