Mark

The **Gospel** of the **Servant of God**

I. The ***Service*** of the **Servant** (1:1-10:52)

II. The ***Sacrifice*** of the **Servant** (11:1-16:20)

C. **His *Teachings*** in **Jerusalem** (11:20-13:37)

1. The ***Power*** of **Faith** (11:20-26)
2. The ***Probing*** **Question** on **Authority** (11:27-33)
3. The ***Parable*** of the **Wicked Vine-growers** (12:1-12)
4. The ***Persistent*** **Testing** from the **Leaders** (12:13-37)

5. The ***Prudent*** **Teaching** in the **Temple** (12:38-44)

a. ***Declaring*** the **"hypocrisy"** of the **Scribes** and **Pharisees** (12:38-39)

[38] In **His teaching He** was saying:
"***Beware*** of the **scribes** who like to walk around in **long robes**,
and *like* **respectful greetings** in the market places,

[39] and **chief seats** in the synagogues and **places of honor** at banquets,

[40] who **devour widows' houses**,
and for ***appearance's* sake** offer **long prayers**;
these will receive **greater condemnation**."

b. ***Disclosing*** the **sacrificial giving** of the **poor Widow** (12:41-44)

[41] And **He sat down** opposite the **treasury**,
and *began* **observing** how the people were putting **money** into the **treasury;**
and many **rich people** were putting in **large sums**.

[42] A **poor widow** came and put in **two small copper coins**,
which amount to **a cent**.

[43] Calling **His disciples** to **Him**, **He** said to them, "Truly **I say** to you,
this **poor widow** put in **more** than **all** the **contributors** to the **treasury**;

44 for they all put in out of their **surplus**, but she, out of **her poverty**,
put in ***all*** **she owned**, ***all*** **she had** to **live on**."

The ***Hypocrisy*** of the of the **Scribes** and **Pharisees**—
Matthew's Account (Matthew 23:1-36)

23 Then **Jesus** spoke to the **crowds** and to **His disciples**, **2** saying:

"The **scribes** and the **Pharisees** have seated themselves in the **chair of Moses**;

3 therefore **all** that they tell you, **do** and **observe**,
but **do not do** according to **their deeds**;
for they **say** ***things*** and **do not do** ***them*.**

4 They tie up **heavy burdens** and lay them on **men's shoulders**,
but they themselves are **unwilling** to **move them** with *so much as* **a finger**.

5 But they do all their **deeds** to be **noticed by men**; for they
broaden their **phylacteries** and lengthen the **tassels** *of their* ***garments*.**

6 They **love** the **place of honor** at banquets and the **chief seats** in the **synagogues**,

7 and **respectful greetings** in the market places,
and being called **Rabbi by men**...

14[**Woe** to you, **scribes** and **Pharisees**, **hypocrites,**..] (Matthew 23:1-7, 14a)

He (Jesus) began saying to **His disciples** first *of all,*
"**Beware** of the **leaven** of the **Pharisees**, which is **hypocrisy**." (Luke 12:1b)

Personal Application
Beware of the ***"Leaven"***
taught by some **"Religious" Leaders Today**

A. The ***Leaven*** of **Hypocrisy**: Those who **do not practice** what **they preach**.
Those who **outwardly appear religious**, but do **not** manifest **true faith**, nor bear
"fruits" of righteousness.

"Because this people **draw near** with **their words**
And **honor Me** with their **lip service**,
But they **remove** their **hearts far** from **Me**, and their **reverence**
for **Me** consists of **tradition** learned ***by rote***, (Isaiah 29:13)

"**Woe** to you, **scribes** and **Pharisees**, **hypocrites!**
For you **clean** the ***outside*** of the **cup** and of the **dish**,
but ***inside*** they are **full** of **robbery** and **self-indulgence**.

You **blind Pharisee**, first **clean** the ***inside*** of the **cup** and of the **dish**,
so that the ***outside*** of it may become **clean also**. (Matthew 23:25-26)

But **prove** yourselves **doers** of the **word**,
and **not** merely **hearers** who **delude themselves**. (James 1:22)

If we say that we have **fellowship with Him** and *yet* **walk** in the **darkness**,
we lie and do **not practice** the **truth**; (I John 1:6)

B. The ***Leaven*** of **Unbiblical Teaching**

1. **Unbiblical Teaching** on the **Doctrines** of **our Faith**

a. The ***leaven*** that **denies** the **Deity** of the **Messiah** (Colossians 2:9)

b. The ***leaven*** that **denies God's plural Oneness** (the **Trinity**) (II Cor. 13:14)

c. The ***leaven*** that **denies Salvation** by **Faith** according to **Grace** (Eph. 2:8)

d. The ***leaven*** of **Replacement Theology** concerning **Israel** (Rom. 11:1, 26-29)

e. The ***leaven*** that **denies** the **Inspiration** of the **Bible** (II Tim. 3:16)

2. **Unbiblical Teaching** regarding **Faith** and **Practice**

a. The ***leaven*** that **denies** that **righteousness** comes through **faith** (in **Messiah**), and ***not*** by the **works** of **the Law** (Romans 3:20-22)

b. The ***leaven*** that **denies** the **need** to **repent** from **sin,** and **walk** according to **righteousness** (Luke 5:31-32) (Acts 17:30-31)

c. The ***leaven*** that **distorts biblical truth** regarding the work of the **Holy Spirit** *in* the **believer**— **teachings** that are **unbiblical** regarding the **gifts** of the **Spirit,** and what it means to "**walk** by the **Spirit**." (Gal. 5:16, 22-23) (II Tim. 1:6-7)

d. The l***eaven*** of **legalistic practice**. Are **believers** under the **Mosaic Law** or the **law** of the **New Covenant *in* Messiah**? Do we **serve God** in "**newness** of the **Spirit**," or in the "**oldness** of the **letter** (**Law**)?"(Romans 7:6, 8:2)

e. The ***leaven*** that **embraces rabbinical Judaism** and **Talmudic teaching** over the **biblical truth** contained in the **scriptures** (II Tim. 3:16)

f. The ***leaven*** that **denies** the **biblical writings** of **Paul** (I Cor. 3:10) (II Pet. 3:15-16)

g. The ***leaven*** of what is known as the **"prosperity gospel"** (I Tim. 6:3-5, 10)

C. The ***Leaven*** of **Unbiblical Values** and **Worldly Influences**

1. The ***Leaven*** of a **decadence** and **sexual immorality**

a. That has ***saturated*** our **culture** and **society** with **graphic sensuality**
b. That ***promotes*** **sexual promiscuity**
c. That ***promotes*** **sexual deviancy**
d. That has ***infiltrated*** our **culture** with **pornography**
e. That is ***undermining*** the **biblical values** that **undergird** the **institutions** of a **healthy society** (marriage, family, education, faith, ethics)

2. The ***Leaven*** of **destructive**, **unbiblical world views**

a. The **teachings** and **philosophies** of **ungodly men** and **women**
b. The **teachings** of **"science"** that are **contrary** to the **word of God**
c. The **teaching** that **exalts itself against** the **knowledge of God**:

...destroying **speculations** and every **lofty thing** ***raised up*** **against** the **knowledge of God**, and *we are* taking every **thought captive** to the ***obedience*** **of Messiah** (II Cor. 10:5)

3. The ***Leaven*** of a **diminished apathetic Church**

a. That **prioritizes "social justice"** over the **message** of the **gospel**
b. That **refuses** to **declare** what is **righteous,** and **confront** what is **evil**
c. That **compromises biblical truth** in the face of **worldly adversity**
d. That **ceases** to be **salt** and **light** in a **dark** and **dying world**
e. That **refuses** to be **humble**, persevere in **prayer**, **repent** from **sin,** and **trust fully** in the **provision** and **power of God** (Zech. 4:6)

Do not love the world nor the **things** in the **world**.
If anyone **loves the world**, the **love** of the **Father** is **not in him**.

For **all** that is **in the world**, the **lust** of the **flesh** and the **lust** of the **eyes**
and the **boastful pride of life**, is ***not*** from the **Fathe**r, but is from **the world**.
(I John 2:15-16)