

## Quotes from the Sermon

### EMILY DICKINSON

*Tell all the Truth but tell it slant –  
Success in Circuit Lies  
Too bright for our infirm Delight  
The Truth's superb surprise.  
As Lightning to the Children eased  
With Explanation kind  
The truth must dazzle gradually  
Or every man be blind.*

### SOURCE UNKNOWN (Or... more honestly, I misplaced the original source...)

1. *We admit that our single most unmitigated pleasure is to judge other people.*
2. *We have come to believe that our means of obtaining greatness is to make everyone lower than ourselves in our own mind.*
3. *We realize that we detest mercy being given to those who, unlike us, haven't worked for it and don't deserve it.*

### TIM KELLER

*The only group of people who produce changed lives are not those who have worked harder or been more obedient, but those who “hear the word of God and understand it” (Mt. 13:23). [Dietrich] Bonhoeffer insisted that people whose lives remained unchanged by God's grace didn't really understand its costliness, and therefore didn't really understand the gospel. They had a general idea of God's universal love, but not a real grasp of the seriousness of sin and the meaning of Christ's work on our behalf. In the end [the old] formula still sums things up nicely: “We are saved by faith alone [not our works], but not by faith that remains alone.” Nothing we do can merit God's grace and favor, we can only believe that he has given it to us in Jesus Christ and receive it by faith. But if we truly believe and trust in the one who sacrificially served us, it changes us into people who sacrificially serve God and our neighbors. If we say “I believe in Jesus” but it doesn't affect the way we live, the answer is not that we need to add hard work to our faith so much as that we haven't truly understood or believed in Jesus at all.*

### JAMES PROCTOR (Hymn – “It is Finished”)

*Cast your deadly “doing” down  
down at Jesus' feet;  
stand in Him, in Him alone,  
gloriously complete.*

# THE KING & HIS KINGDOM



## THE STORY OF JESUS

Lightning & Love

Matthew 23:1-39

3/24/2019

### LEADERS & HYPOCRISY

- Do not confuse the **MESSENGER** with the **MESSAGE**... but do have a proper perspective on **BROKEN PEOPLE**.

#### Two forms of hypocrisy:

1. To do the **RIGHT** thing for the **WRONG** reason.
2. To **KNOW** the right thing, but to **NOT DO** the right thing.

### LEADERSHIP REDEFINED

- A disciple of Jesus will always and forever be only a **DISCIPLE** because Jesus alone is **TEACHER**
- Jesus' disciples must place **SERVANT LEADERSHIP** as the highest priority.
- The servant arranges their lives with the ambition to give **THEMSELVES** for the benefit of **OTHERS**.

### “WOE TO YOU”

- The woe of the **SHUT DOOR**. Instead we should be **SIGNPOSTS** to the **DOORWAY** of the kingdom.
- The woe of **ENTRAPPED CONVERTS**. Instead, make converts to the **KINGDOM**, not **OURSELVES**.
- The woe of **BINDING OATHS**. Instead, live in moment-by-moment **PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY** to the living God.
- The woe of neglecting the **WEIGHTY** matters of the law. But a disciple must **MAJOR** on the majors.
- The woe of **CLEAN** outside, **FILTHY** inside. But humility allows God to clean the **INSIDE**, which changes our **MOTIVES**.
- The woe of whitewashed **TOMBS**. Instead attend to the **TRANSFORMATION** of the heart that comes by responding to Jesus.
- The woe of the descendants of **MURDERERS**. Instead choose carefully the **TRADITIONS** you will represent.

*Cast your deadly **DOING** down / Down at Jesus' feet / Stand in Him, in Him alone / Gloriously **COMPLETE**.*

You can listen to today's message at [MissionTrailsChurch.com](http://MissionTrailsChurch.com).

# THE KING & HIS KINGDOM



## THE STORY OF JESUS

Lightning & Love  
Matthew 23:1-39

3/24/2019

### GROWTH GROUP DIGGING DEEPER QUESTIONS

To catch the weekend message, go to the [MTC App](#), or [MissionTrailsChurch.com](#).

#### GETTING STARTED

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, **was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, inspired or confused you?**

#### DIGGING DEEPER

2. **Why is HYPOCRISY in Christianity so dangerous... and why should we expect that it will happen?**

3. **Read Matthew 23:1-12**

**What sorts of things is Jesus warning his DISCIPLES and the CROWDS about? Why are these things such a big deal?**

4. **How are verses 11-12 an antidote to the problems listed in verses 1-10, and what barriers are there to living in this truth?**

#### GETTING PERSONAL

5. Several of the "woes" that Jesus speaks in verses 13-32 are related to making it harder for others to enter the kingdom of God, and to obey the commands of God. (Here's Michael Wilkins' definition of a *woe*: "It's a mixed cry of regret, compassion, sorrow and denunciation.")

**How can the church, or you individually:**

- **Point people to Jesus instead of blocking the door (v. 13-16)?**
- **Major on the majors of faith and obedience, and not just the minors (v. 16-24)?**

6. **Read Matthew 23:27-28 and Ephesians 2:1-5**

**According to these two verses, what type of person is *dead on the inside*, and what type of person *has been made alive*?**

#### BRINGING IT HOME

7. **Are there any of the "woes" (see filled-in-blanks on back if needed), or any of the accusations against the Pharisees that hit "close to home" for you? If so, what are they, and how do you think God wants you to respond to that?**

#### PRAY TOGETHER