

A crown of thorns is placed on top of a golden crown. The scene is lit from the side, creating a strong highlight on the right side of the golden crown and casting the left side into shadow. The background is dark and textured.

Mentem

Twenty Three



22:41-46





NOTES 41-46

- ★ I guess Jesus figured if they are going to ask lame questions of him, he would ask one of his own
- ★ He is just pressing them one more time to recognize him as Messiah.
- ★ Obviously we have seen people calling him “Son of David”



NOTES

- ★ This chapter is about the failings of the Jewish leadership as God's rep.'s
- ★ It's also a lesson for the church today in regards to ministry
- ★ Need to acknowledge the heaviness & seriousness of these responsibilities in God's Kingdom - don't take lightly



NOTES

- ★ Yes, those in ministry & position in the church are held in greater accountability.
- ★ But, I believe every “christian” is called to represent Christ & should take what is taught here seriously.
- ★ “Woe” is strong, but here Jesus’ heart



NOTES

- ★ See v.37-39 - it is wrath/judgment mixed with sorrow, anger or maybe frustration from a heart of love
- ★ Just is grieving because of their stubbornness & blindness



23:1-36



Phylateries = leather boxes w/scripture on wrist or forehead

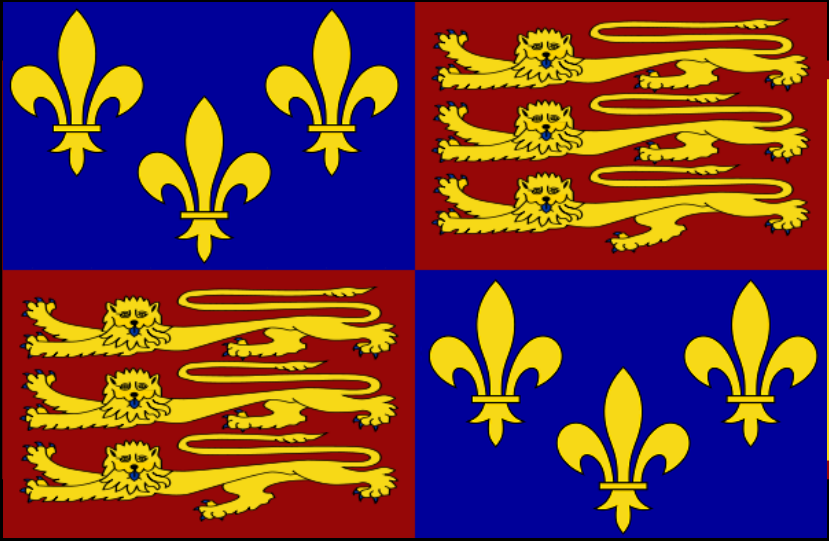
“These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

♣ Deuteronomy 6:6-9 | NIV84

Tassels on their clothes

“...make tassels on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel. You will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by going after the lusts of your own hearts and eyes. Then you will remember to obey all my commands and will be consecrated to your God.”

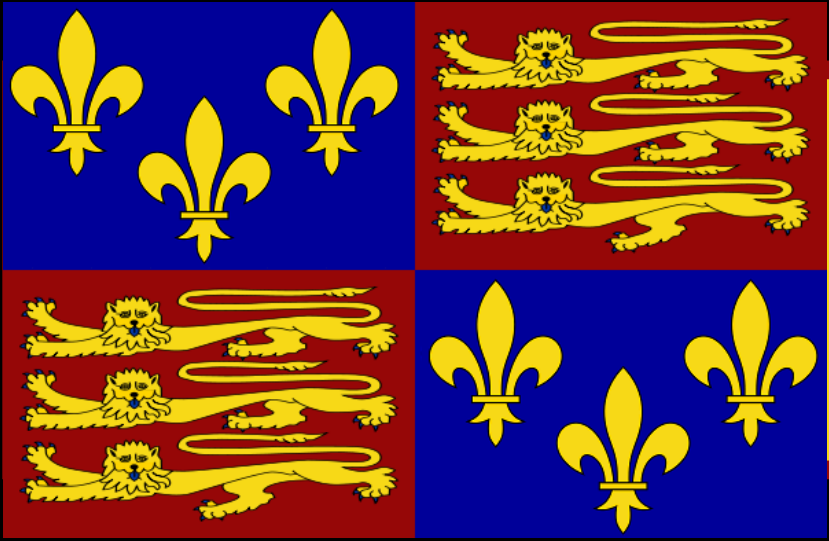
✿ *Numbers 15:38-40 | NIV84*



5 Kingdom Woes

1. Hypocrisy

- Greek term for actors - wearing masks
 - ★ How much idolizing of actors today?
 - ★ Are we following Jesus or personalities?
- Didn't practice what they preached
 - ★ Is integrity optional for leaders/stars?



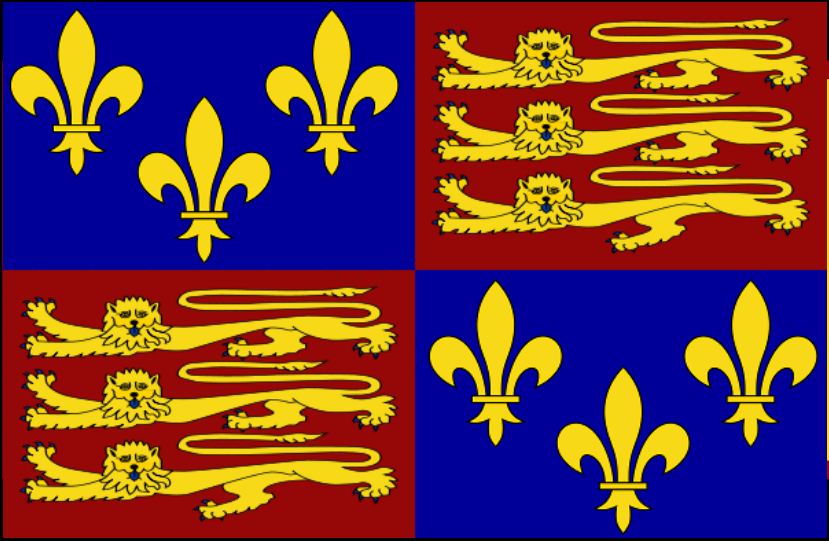
5 Kingdom Woes

1. Hypocrisy

- **Converted people to a belief system instead of bringing them to the living God**
- **Oaths & their word meant nothing - changed the rules to suit themselves**
- **Outside didn't match the inside(heart)**
 - ★ **Nothing deep - only surface level**

“Surely you desire truth in the
inner parts; you teach me
wisdom in the inmost place.”

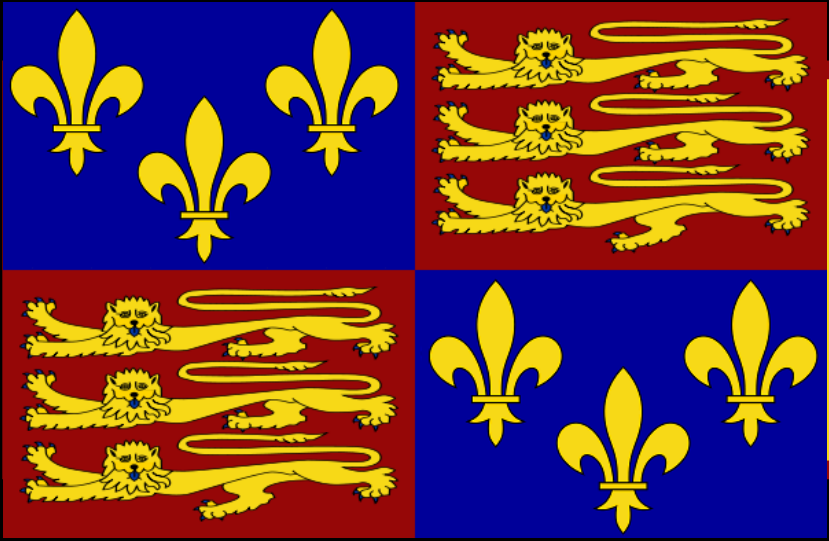
❖ *Psalms 51:6 | NIV84*



5 Kingdom Woes

1. Hypocrisy

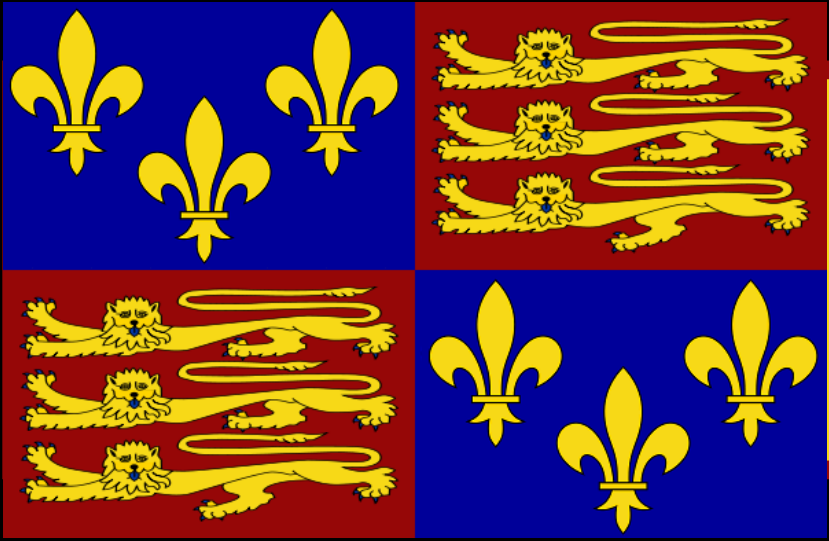
- Acted like they cared about God & spirituality
 - ★ What makes a person spiritual or holy?
 - ★ Gave lip service justice, mercy, & faithfulness...made spices important?
- How powerful is a transformed life?



5 Kingdom Woes

2. Popularity

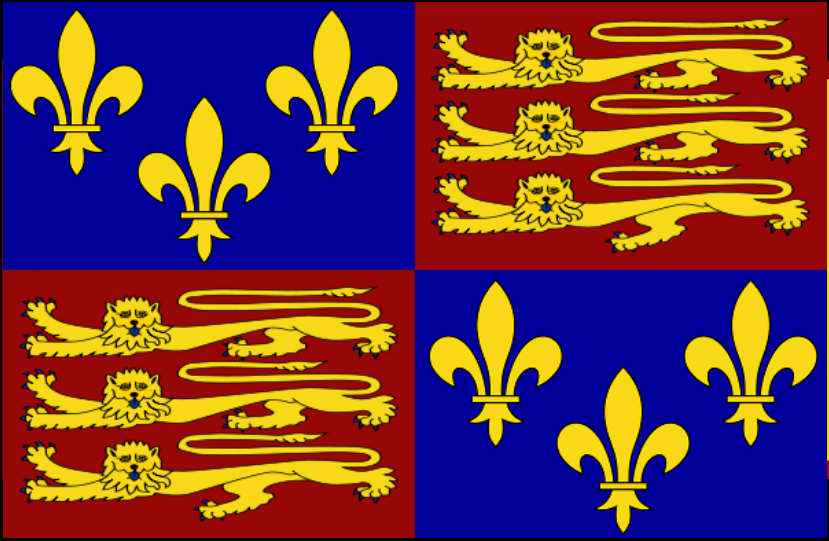
- Instead of doing what was right & honoring God, did what honored them
- Made their own disciples (proselytes) in the name of God rather than converting people to God's way
 - ★ Paul - believed he was doing God's work



5 Kingdom Woes

2. Popularity

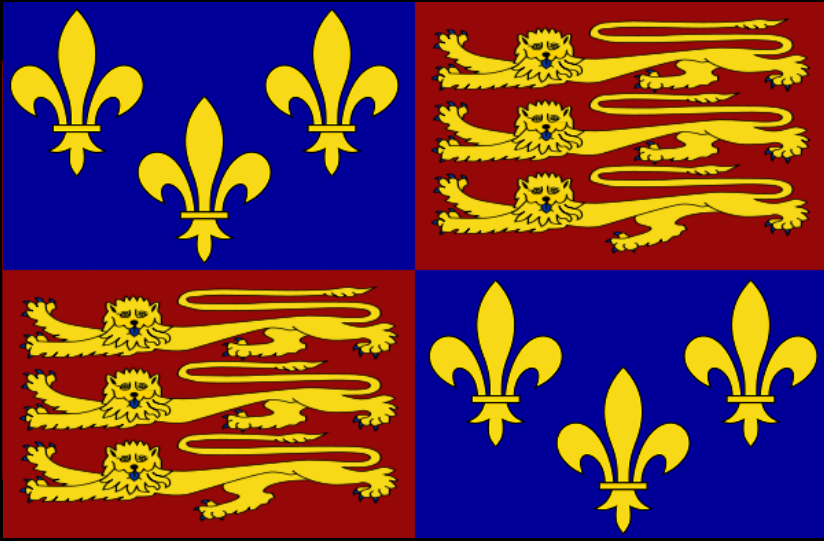
- Obviously, cared more about appearances than their heart or motives - no conscience
- By giving spices claimed how serious they were = a ruse...minimal
- All about the seat, position & title...did they deserve or even earn those places?
 - ★ Rabbi = Master, Ph.D., Jesus lifted on a cross



5 Kingdom Woes

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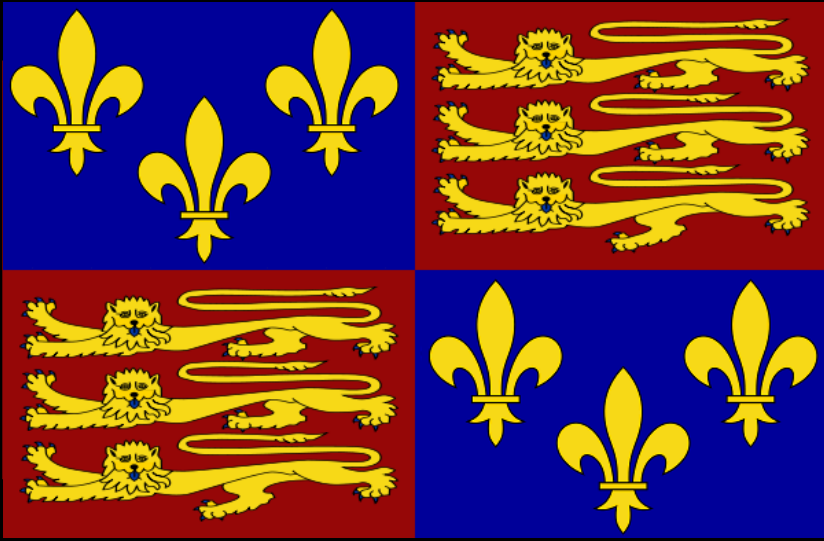
- Ceremonialized the prophets & made false claims of greater piety - willing to kill Messiah or at minimum the first prophet in 400 years?
- Popularity in the Kingdom Jesus said = serve others, 1st last & last 1st
 - ★ Pleasing God = greater goal (Eph. 5:10) but have to forfeit popularity with the world!



5 Kingdom Woes

3. Worldly Position

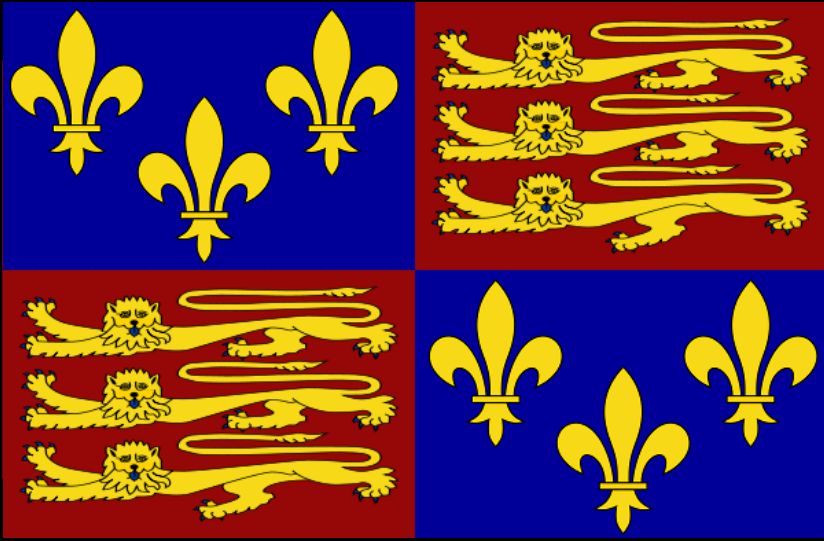
- Assumed they had a heavenly position
- Snakes/Vipers = Satan (ruler of this world)
 - ★ Playing for the wrong team and brought others with them!
 - ★ Matt. 7:15-23 - Lord didn't we...



5 Kingdom Woes

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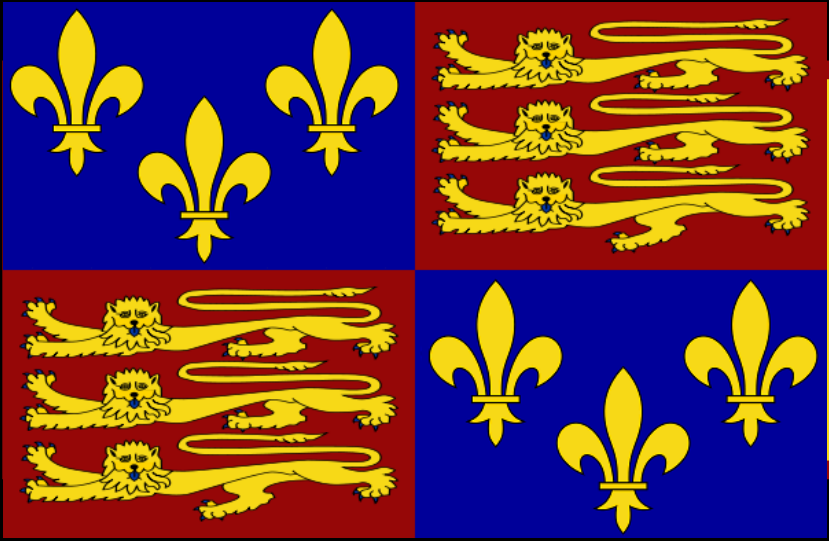
- Many of us care more about the things of this world & pleasing the people of this world over pleasing God
 - ★ Those people won't be defending you
- Make sure your name is written in the Lamb's book of Life making a name for yourself anywhere in this world



5 Kingdom Woes

4. Blindness to the Truth

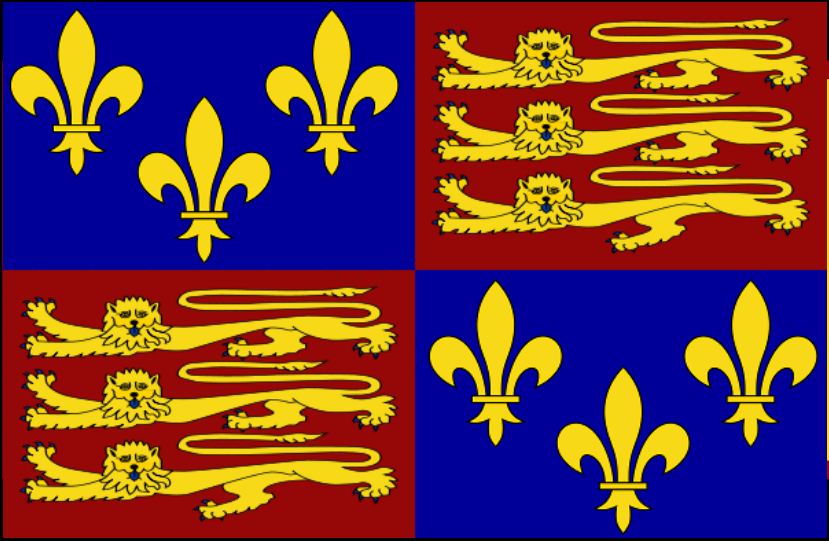
- Sad truth they didn't know they were blinded by their popularity, possessions & position
- Pharisees - what they said(oral law) was so enlightened it was equal with God's Word & many times it trumped it!
 - ★ Yet they were way off!



5 Kingdom Woes

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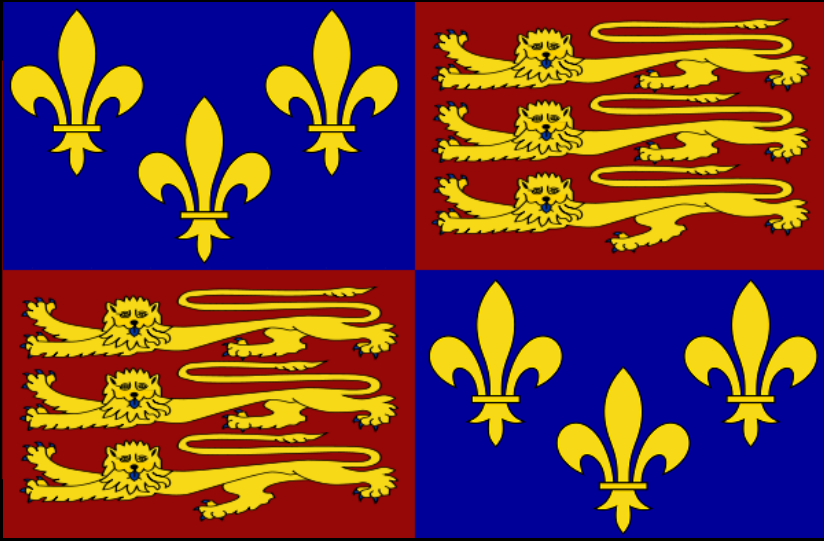
- Commmanded total obedience (power) - missed out on greater power of Messiah
- Where is “pharisees” listed in the O.T.? = Man made
- What about today? Are our so called “bible studies” filled with more videos, book quotes, what some pastor or personality said?



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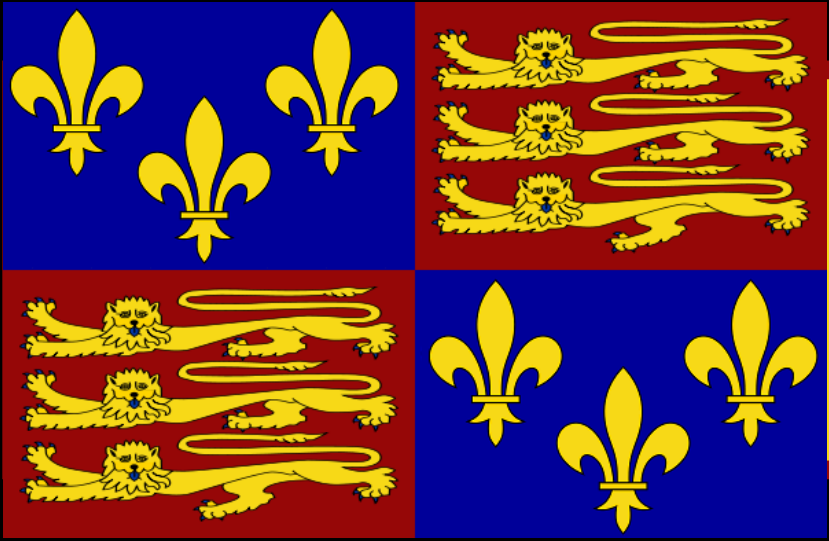
- I get worried when we don't care about bringing our bibles to church = leads to blindness
- They refused to come into the light of Christ & the truth of God's Word - to expose their hypocrisy, their prideful selfishness for popularity, & blindness



5 Kingdom Woes

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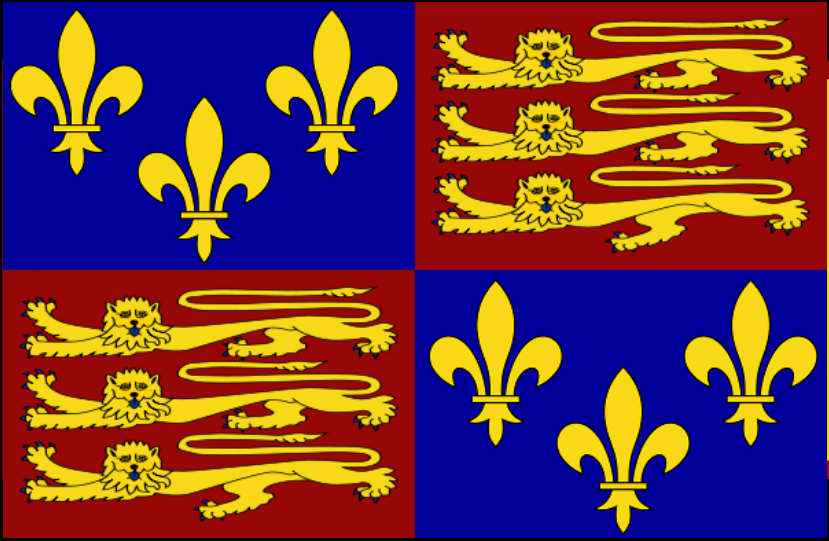
- Do we get comfortable with our blindness and/or ignorance?
- Is it a valid excuse?



5 Kingdom Woes

5. Legalism

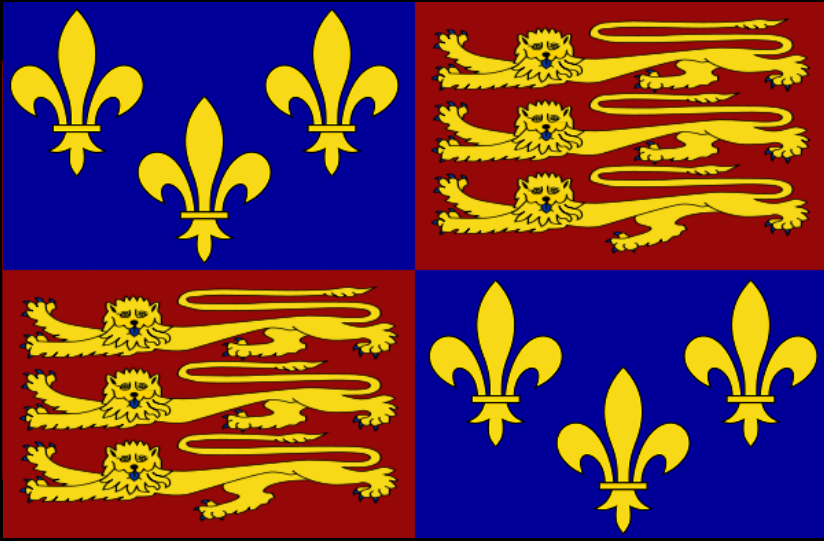
- Pharisees = “separated ones” - the separated ones were separating people from God & making heaven impossible
 - ★ Putting more weight on exterior religious works than a relationship with Christ & interior change
 - ★ Oral law was adding to or taking away from what God intended - creating a load people could not carry or accomplish



5 Kingdom Woes

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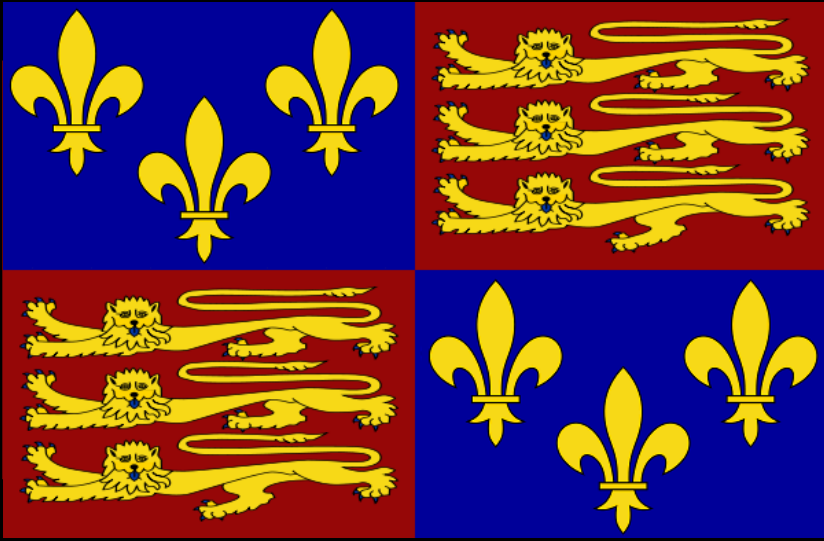
- ★ Making oaths or promises we can't keep
- Law can only point out sin, but could not take it away = will only bring death
- ★ Are more rules making people safer? Does changing a person in an exterior, where they live, what they eat change their heart?
- Are we trying to save people or is Jesus?



5 Kingdom Woes

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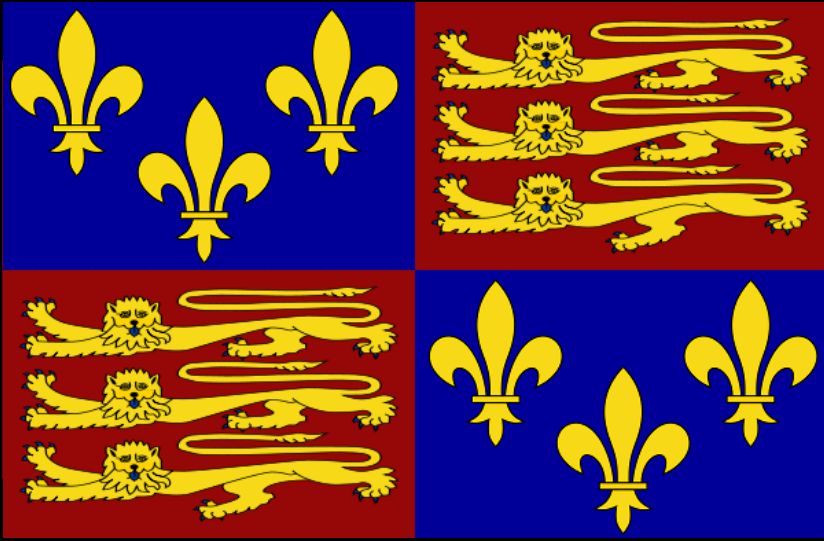
- ★ Do we have a own new legalism in our church agendas, formulas, doctrines, business & ministry models
- Do we even allow space in our services for Jesus to work through the Spirit or even hear from him? Leaving the Word out?
- ★ It's he the Word of God that became flesh who truly saves & transforms!



5 Kingdom Woes

5. Legalism

- The problem is legalism & works based religion is impossible to for anyone (shut the door...) to accomplish & anyone who promotes it will not make it in!
- ★ Lie of Legalism = if it is more miserable it must be more spiritual & better
- The Law cannot save!



5 Kingdom Woes

5. Legalism

- Jn 3 - Nicodemus(a Pharisee) = Jesus said you must born again...of The Spirit
- Jesus came to give rest - Matt. 11:28-30

2 Tí. 3:1-5

Acts 6:3-6, 1 Tím.

3, 1 Peter 5:1-11