

## Matthew 23:1-3, 27-28, 37-39

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses; <sup>3</sup> 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*."

<sup>27</sup> "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. <sup>28</sup> So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness."

<sup>37</sup> "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. <sup>38</sup> Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! <sup>39</sup> For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"



### SERMON NOTES

February 19, 2012

T. Don Guthrie, preaching

### Hard and Hopeful Words

Matthew 23:1-3, 27-28, 37-39

"Let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger."  
(James 1:19)

Angry words hardly sound like Christ.

- Collapsing Society (vs. 37-39)  
Jeremiah 5:9 "Shall I not punish these *people*," declares the Lord, "And on a nation such as this shall I not avenge Myself?"
- Crisis of leadership (v. 27-28)  
A strange reduction of expectation
- Upward call of God (v. 3)  
You be different!

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One more mercy!

2 Peter 3:9b "...but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance."