

Hope for Hypocrites

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- D.A. Carson, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Matthew*, 2010.
Daniel M. Doriani, *Reformed Expository Commentary: Matthew*, 2008.
D. Martyn Lloyd Jones, *Studies in the Sermon on the Mount*, 1959-60
Tim Keller, *Logos Sermon Archive*.
John Legg, *The King and His Kingdom*, 2004.
Grant R. Osborne, *Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament: Matthew*, 2010.

“Hypocrites often continue for a season in the duty of prayer. They do so for a while after they received common religious experiences...that while they are under awakenings, they may, through fear of hell, call upon God, and attend very constantly upon the duty of secret prayer...but they do not persevere.”

- Jonathan Edwards, *“Hypocrites Deficient in the Duty of Prayer”*

- 1) What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word, “hypocrite?” What is a hypocrite, according to Jesus?
- 2) Read Matthew 6:1. What is Jesus trying to eradicate from Christian community?
- 3) What motivates the Christian to give, pray and fast? What motivates the hypocrite? What motivates you to hide your weakness rather than be honest about it in Christian community?
- 4) What ‘costume’ did Jesus wear when He died on the cross? What ‘costume’ do you now wear as a result of the cross? What is a hypocrite lacking then? (See Romans 8:14-17)
- 5) How do you fight the motivation to care too much about what you think of you and what others think of you?
- 6) What spiritual disciplines do you need help with? What changes do you need to make in light of this passage?

Take time to pray to our Father in heaven who sees in secret. Use the Lord’s prayer as a guide.