11. The people of Israel were not ready for the kingdom because their hearts weren't what?

12. John's message was what?

- 13. Where would John not have been accepted?
- 14. What message did John give to the spiritual leaders of Israel?
- 15. What course had John never taken?

16. What two groups were the most prominent groups in 1st Century Israel?

17. Was the group known as the Pharisees always hypocritical and prideful and overbearing?

18. What was it that caused the Pharisees to actually start up as a group?

- 19. The name, "Pharisees" actually means what?
- 20. What did the Pharisees add to?

21. Does it mean that you are being a Pharisee if you believe the word of God and take the word of God seriously and stand for the Word of God?

22. What are some other ways that people falsely accuse people of being a Pharisee?

23. Why did Jesus rebuke the Pharisees?

24. What group was the religious liberals in the New Testament time?

25. What are some things this group did or didn't believe in?

- 26. The Pharisees were leading people away from God by promoting their what?
- 27. The Sadducees were leading people away from God by denying what?
- 28. What makes religion so despicable?
- 29. In what ways were the religious leaders like a brood of vipers?
- 30. Most Jewish leaders assumed that God's wrath was only for whom?
- 31. Summarize what John tells the religious leaders in verse 8:
- 32. True repentance involves a change in what three things?
- 33. What is the result of true repentance?
- 34. What false assurance (misconception) did John address in verse 9?
- 35. What are some ways that people do the same thing today?
- 36. Being physically related to Abraham isn't the issue. So what is?
- 37. In essence, John, in verse 10, is telling the leaders that what is coming?

38. John's point was that his baptism ministry was intended to point people to whom?

39. What is John referring to when he talks about the Messiah baptizing with the Holy Spirit and with fire?

40. Who receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

41. Who will experience the baptism of fire?

42. What are the only two categories of people in the world?

43. Which category are you in?

Remember: Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to consistently apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Philippians 2:12-13; I Timothy 4:7-9; James 1:22-27). As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:

»>How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?

» How can I accomplish this change?

» What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

For Next Time:

1) Read Matthew 1:1-3:17

2) Why did Jesus get baptized?

3) What was the age for when a man became a prophet, priest, or a king?

4) Is there any significance to God the Father's statement, "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well-pleased..."?

(A CD, DVD, video, or cassette tape of this sermon is available. Order forms are located in the foyer of the church in the middle entrance).

A CONFRONTATION WITH SOME SNAKES Matthew 3:7-12 (Series #7)

The following are questions designed to facilitate greater learning and deeper understanding of spiritual truths presented in the sermon "A **Confrontation With Some Snakes**". All of the questions are answered as the sermon is presented. We hope that it will be a catalyst to spiritual growth in your life.

1. Religion is a bunch of what?

2. What is actually the world's worst evil?

3. Fill in the blanks: "(Religion) soothes people's consciences by telling them that if they do enough ______, if they do enough good ______, if they do enough church attendance, if they do enough religious ______, if they do enough ceremony, if they do enough ______, they will make it into heaven."

4. There is nothing worse than leading people down a path that eventually lands them where?

5. Jesus, the Apostles, and other leaders in the New Testament gave strong condemnation and rebukes against whom?

6. Matthew 3:1-12 introduces us to the what (or to whom)?

7. The forerunner in Bible times, went before the king to announce what?

8. The gospel of Matthew presents our Lord Jesus Christ as the what?

9. Who was the herald or forerunner who came before Christ?

10. John the Baptizer was to clear the path of obstacles so the king could do what?

**To help protect the quality of recording the sermon, we ask that you quietly turn to the inside of this study guide. Thank you! We appreciate your help.