

# **A Warning Against Pretentiousness**

Matthew 23:8-12

(series #127)

**Intro:** the warning about false prophets in Matt. 7:15

## **I. The Sin of Self-exaltation vv. 8-10**

- A. Do not be called "Rabbi" v. 8
  - 1. We are not anyone's master
  - 2. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:1-4
- B. Do not call anyone your father v. 9
  - 1. Not a reference to dads - Mark 1:20
  - 2. God alone is our spiritual source
- C. Do not be called teachers v. 10
  - 1. Not a prohibition of titles, per se
    - a. Ephesians 4:11-12
    - b. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 4:15
  - 2. Not a prohibition of respect
    - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:11-12
    - b. Hebrews 13:7, 17

## **II. The Exhortation to Humility vv. 11-12**

- A. Strive to be a servant v. 11
- B. Humble yourself v. 12
  - 1. Luke 14:11; 18:14
  - 2. James 4:6; 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:5

**Conclusion:** a vertical focus - Matthew 6:1-4, 6, 18