

10. Jesus uttered every syllable of these words with absolute self-control but with devastating what?
11. These are the last words that Jesus spoke where?
12. Jesus began by addressing the most significant error among the religious leaders and that was what?
13. What doctrinal issue can we have no room for tolerance over?
14. What is the worst part about misleading religion?
15. So much religion focuses on external religious forms to the exclusion of what?
16. What word means, “judgment” or “damnation” or “horror” or “disaster” or calamity?
17. The religious leaders practiced a religion of fulfilling their obligations or not fulfilling them by resorting to what?
18. In this example in the text, they thought they had found a convenient way to do what?
19. Jesus began by referring to them as what?
20. What happens to a man who ignores his spiritual heart long enough and plays enough minds games justifying error or sin?
21. According to I Timothy 4:2, what can happen to the conscience?
22. Do you come up with clever ways to evade your obligations?
23. Do you find ways to get around your commitments? Are you slippery when it comes to keeping your word?
24. The kind of spiritual blindness Jesus is referring to is what kind of blindness?
25. It is possible that the blindness of the religious leaders had gone beyond wilful blindness to become a kind of what?
26. Romans 6 warns us that if we give ourselves to sin, we run the risk of becoming what?
27. Are you, in any way, like the scribes and Pharisees, in playing mind games?
28. Mint, anise, and cummin were what?
29. Why did the religious leaders pay a 10% tithe on each of the herbs or seeds?
30. When Jesus spoke these words, how much of the Old Testament law was still in place?
31. Jesus criticized the scribes and Pharisees for how they completely did what?
32. What are some examples of ways that we do similar things as the scribes and Pharisees did?
33. The scribes and Pharisees neglected what?
34. Practicing justice and showing mercy to others and having faith towards God are an extension of what?

35. Jesus was trying to expose the leaders' hearts so that others could see them and not do what?
36. Why did some Pharisees strain their beverages through a fine cloth so as to not inadvertently swallow a gnat?
37. Summarize what Jesus was pointing out with, "swallow a camel"?
38. In what ways are you hypocritical in your relationship with the Lord?
39. Are you guilty of "straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel"?

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 23 this week**
- 2. Man looks at the outward appearance but the Lord looks at what?**
- 3. As you read Matthew 23, where do we see the contrast between what man looks at and what God looks at?**
- 4. In what way(s) are we as Christians guilty of being like the people Jesus confronts in Matthew 23:25-28?**

(A CD, DVD, video, or cassette tape of this sermon is available. Order forms are located in any of the AV order centers in the church.)

**STRAIN A GNAT & SWALLOW A CAMEL**  
**Matthew 23:16-24**  
**(Series #129)**

The following are questions designed to facilitate greater learning and deeper understanding of spiritual truths presented in the sermon "**Strain a Gnat and Swallow a Camel.**" 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. What is the most pressing or urgent issue in our world today?
2. What is the greatest battle?
3. It could be tempting to skip Matthew 23 because it is so what?
4. Jesus was gentle and tender but He was also what (as seen in this passage we are looking at today)?
5. Did Jesus say what He said in Matthew 23 to vent His frustration?
6. Who was Jesus warning when He said these words in Matthew 23?
7. Jesus was also making one final what when He said what He said in Matthew 23?
8. Was Jesus being unloving when He spoke these firm, straightforward, frank and candid words in Matthew 23?
9. Some liberal theologians and Bible scholars say what about these words in Matthew 23?

**\*\*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.**