DO YOU CLAIM TO BE A CHRISTIAN? IF SO...

THE MOTIVE FOR YOUR RELIGIOUS DEEDS REVEALS YOUR TRUE IDENTITY

Jesus confronts religious hypocrisy by addressing the heart motives

Matthew 6:1-4

- I. JESUS GIVES AN OVERALL WARNING FOR THE OUTWARDLY RELIGIOUS: Take Heed not to do God things for man's outward praise, if you do you have no true reward (1)
- II. IN LIGHT OF HIS WARNING, JESUS GIVES INSTRUCTION IN THREE PRIME AREAS OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY THUS REVEALING WHO IS TRULY RIGHTEOUS: Do not Give, Pray or Fast for man to see, but do so for God, who sees in secret and will reward (2-18)
 - A. THE FIRST EXAMPLE OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY: ALMS (Giving to the poor) (2-4)
 - 1. Jesus' Instruction Concerning Alms (2-4)
 - (a) **A Warning** to not seek mans praise like the Hypocrites do when giving Alms (2a)
 - (b) **The assurance** if you do, you have your reward already (2b)
 - (c) **Instruction** on how to give alms properly (3)
 - (d) **The promise** of heavenly reward (4)
 - **2. The implied** message: (1-4)

In the Next Weeks

B. THE SECOND EXAMPLE: PRAYER (5-15)
C. THE THIRD EXAMPLE: FASTING (16-18)