

WHO IS THIS MAN?

## **THE HEART OF A HYPOCRITE**

Mark 12:38-44      Jeff Schreve

*“Beware of the scribes who like to walk around in long robes, and like respectful greetings in the market places, and chief seats in the synagogues, and places of honor at banquets, who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers; these will receive greater condemnation.” Mark 12:38-40*

**What do we see with regard to the religious hypocrites?**

**1. Religious hypocrites are among us.**

A. Jesus tells us to be on guard against them.

B. Jesus wants us to be discerning.

*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 1 John 4:1*

**2. Religious hypocrites are in it for themselves.**

A. They live for the accolades of the people.

B. They try to appear righteous.

C. They prey on the poor and helpless.

D. They will receive greater condemnation.

*“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from men; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.” Matthew 23:13*

**3. Religious hypocrites can learn lessons from a poor widow.**

*And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent. Mark 12:42*

A. The poor widow is a victim of the hypocritical system.

B. The poor widow honored God and depended upon Him.

**Are you more like the widow or the scribe?**