

Study Guide on Matthew 23:2-12 & Mark 12:38-44 **New International Version**

Assign each person in the class one or more verses to study.
Each person should answer these two questions on their assigned verse.

1. What does this verse say?
2. What does this verse mean to me?
3. Discuss your answers with the class.

Matthew 23:2-12 & Mark 12:38-44

(Matthew 23:2) “The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat.

(Matthew 23:3) So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach.

(Matthew 23:4) They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

(Matthew 23:5) “Everything they do is done for people to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long;

(Matthew 23:6) they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues;

(Matthew 23:7) they love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to be called ‘Rabbi’ by others.

(Matthew 23:8) “But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers.

(Matthew 23:9) And do not call anyone on earth ‘father,’ for you have one Father, and he is in heaven.

(Matthew 23:10) Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah.

(Matthew 23:11) The greatest among you will be your servant.

(Matthew 23:12) For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

(Mark 12:38) As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,

(Mark 12:39) and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets.

(Mark 12:40) They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

(Mark 12:41) Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts.

(Mark 12:42) But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

(Mark 12:43) Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.

(Mark 12:44) They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

Write the verse or verses you have been assigned in the space below:

Answer These Questions for Class Discussion or Study

1. What does the verse say?
2. What does the verse mean to me?