

## THE CONDEMNATION OF RELIGIOUS HYPOCRISY

Matthew 23:1-24:2

### PART THREE – THE FINAL CONDEMNATION - Matthew 23:34-24:2

**Introduction:** In our Lord's final remarks, first to the religious leaders within the Temple courts, and then to His disciples just outside the Temple, He will be proclaiming that God "requires that which is past" (Ecclesiastes 3:15) - and especially will He require an accounting of all who have mistreated God's people down through the ages to this present day. Those who injure, ridicule, mock or slander God's people will one day discover that they have committed a great evil against the Lord Himself. In His final remarks, as He is bringing His public ministry to a close, Jesus foretells that the religious system of the scribes and Pharisees would soon be coming to an end along with their capital city and nation. Not only had they persecuted and murdered God's messengers in the past, Jesus foretells that they will continue to do so after He is gone. Jesus has thoroughly castigated a vile religious system - now He condemns the religious city and nation and makes this pronouncement: "...you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the LORD.'". With those words Jesus turns and walks out of the Temple. - His public ministry is now over.

*There is a time - we know not when, a point - we know not where,  
that marks the destiny of men - to glory or despair.*

*There is a line by us unseen, that crosses every path,  
the hidden boundary between God's patience and His wrath.*

#### A. A HISTORY OF \_\_\_\_\_ - 23:34-36

1. THE \_\_\_\_\_ GENERATIONS - v. 34

2. THE \_\_\_\_\_ GENERATIONS - v. 35

3. THE \_\_\_\_\_ GENERATION - v. 36

#### B. A LAMENT OVER \_\_\_\_\_ - 23:37

1. REVEALING ISRAEL'S \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 37

2. REVEALING JESUS' \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 37

**C. A PRONOUNCEMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_ - 23:38 - 24:2**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 38

2. \_\_\_\_\_ - v. 39

3. \_\_\_\_\_ - 24:1

4. \_\_\_\_\_ - 24:2

**D. A PROPHECY OF \_\_\_\_\_ - 23:39**