

SERMON NOTES: January 11, 2026

EXPOSED: The Reveal of Religiosity Matthew 12:1-31

I. Exposed Hearts - 12:33-37

II. Exposed Desires - 12:38-45

“You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.” 12:34

III. Exposed Advantage - 12:46-50

“And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, ‘Behold My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.’” 12:48-50

Action Point

Is there religiosity in your life that has been exposed this morning? Bring it before the Lord this week!

Life Group Study Questions

EXPOSED: The Reveal of Religiosity

Matthew 12:33-50

1. Have you ever purchased a vehicle, only to be surprised when you later discover it was a “lemon” with hidden problems? How is that experience similar to dealing with religiosity?

2. Pride is often the hardest thing to perceive in ourselves. Is this true? If so, how have you seen pride at work in your own life?

3. The Pharisees were blind to their own religiosity. What illustrations does Jesus use to indict them?

4. The primary evidence that Jesus uses to condemn the Pharisees is their words. Why is this so convicting?

5. How does the Pharisees’ approach to Jesus in 12:38 reveal the ugliness of religiosity?

6. When the Pharisees ask Jesus for a sign, they are essentially saying, “prove to us that you are God on our terms.” Do we ever do this?

7. Jesus tells the Pharisees that the only sign they will receive is the sign of Jonah. What is this sign, and why is it the most important one?

8. One of the deadly foundations of religiosity is relying on morality and self-improvement for salvation instead of Christ. How do verses 12:43-45 reveal this?

9. There is no spiritual advantage in religiosity. No relational connection, religious pedigree, or hard work on your part can improve your standing before God. Only relationship with Christ counts. Do you know Him?