

The Judge Who Would Gather: Jesus' Covenant Lawsuit in the Temple

Matthew 23:1-39

I. Introduction

- A. Read the passage, pray
- B. Review: The Greatest Commandments & Psalm 110
- C. The Covenant Lawsuit
 - 1. What is a covenant lawsuit?
 - 2. The set-up in Matthew 23

II. The Opening Statement

- A. False Honor (**Matthew 23:1-7**)
 - 1. The Seat of Moses
 - 2. Broad phylacteries and long fringes (**Deuteronomy 6:8-9; Numbers 15:37-41**)
 - 3. Accusation: They have loved the praise of men with all their heart and soul and mind and strength
- B. The New Covenant Community (**Matthew 23:8-12**)
 - 1. One Teacher: Christ
 - 2. True Humility

III. The Evidence

- A. Shutting the Door (**Matthew 23:13-15**)
- B. Blind Guides (**Matthew 23:16-28**)
- C. Blood-guilt (**Matthew 29-36**)

IV. The Judgment (**Matthew 23:33-39**)

- A. The Verdict
- B. The Sentence
- C. The Hint of Mercy

V. Conclusion

- A. Love God's praise
- B. Lift your brother's burden (**Matthew 11:28-30**)
- C. Flee to Christ