

## ***Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 67***

*The Pharisees and the Scribes of the New Testament church in pertain to the seven churches that Jesus sent to them individual letters*

***“20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:20 KJV)*** Here Jesus warned the people that they will lose their salvation, and they will not enter the Kingdom of God, if they will live like the scribes and the Pharisees who know the Word of God and did not live it or they had done opposite to it.

***For I say unto you:*** These words are directed, not only to the true disciples of Christ in general, or to his apostles in particular, but to the whole multitude of the people who were around, and even to the whole world today, who had great esteem and admiration to the scribes and Pharisees for their righteousness and holiness concerning which Christ says, ***“that except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven.”*** Scribes and Pharisees have righteousness but we need to exceed of what they have so we can enter the Kingdom of God.

Therefore the more now we need to check ourselves and our motives behind everything we are doing. We are exposed before God and we need to allow the Holy Spirit to correct us and let us accept to change our ways and come back to the right narrow way that God wants us to go through so we enter the eternal life that we received from Christ.

Speaking being the light of the world, and the candle need to be put on candlestick, ***“15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.” (Matthew 5:15 KJV)*** The candlesticks are the churches of Christ as we read in the book of Revelation, ***“20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.” (Revelation 1:20 KJV)*** We had study the life of the seven churches in details and we had seen the example of the scribes and the Pharisees that were rejected by God and the examples of the true disciples of Jesus that He ordained for us to be and to live. Now we will be going to have a fast review

***1. The letter of Jesus Christ to the church in Ephesus who left their first love: “1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; 2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. 6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate. 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.” (Revelation 2:1-7 KJV)***

The scribes and the Pharisees in the church of Ephesus are those who left their first love, those refuse to pray, refuse to persevere, refuse to evangelize, refuse to start Bible study and make new disciple and continue the ministry because they are discouraged and still pondering on their previous wounds and enticed with the worldliness of those liars, the false apostles and those who left the church enjoying the worldly life. If you are like that you need to come out quickly of such despondency and a trap that the devil had set to hinder you from serving God, knowing that sooner or later Christ will send you His judgment if you will not repent. ***“5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.” (Revelation 2:5 KJV)*** God threatening here to remove His church who is not willing to recover from the discouragement, therefore be careful and repent.

***2. The letter of Jesus Christ to the church in Smyrna, the persecuted church: “8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; 9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan. 10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. 11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.” (Revelation 2:8-11 KJV)***

The scribes and the Pharisees in the church of Smyrna are those who worked hard for the Lord but refuse to go through persecution and continue in it, fearing that will be causing them death. Jesus asked them and is asking us today to be faithful until death and He will give us the crown of life, ***“10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.” (Revelation 2:10 KJV)***

The scribes and the Pharisees in this church are those who love their life but they are losing it. The more you want to save and preserve your life and avoid suffering and avoid entering the ten days of tribulation, then you will be lost, but when you offer your life to God, then you will be saved. ***“For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.” (Matthew 16:25 KJV)*** If you are like that you need to repent and choose to continue in the narrow way even you are persecuted and may cause you your life. We should not be afraid, because Jesus is with us and he will not leave us, for He will raise us up from the death on the last day.

***3. The letter of Jesus Christ to the church in Pergamus, that was the church that is soaked with the world, the worldly church who not kept herself virgin to Jesus: “12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; 13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. 14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to***

*commit fornication. 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate. 16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. 17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.” (Revelation 2:12-17 KJV)*

The scribes and the Pharisees in this church are those who continue to be steadfast in faith, they hold fast their faith in Christ and they did not deny His name, they bore the persecution, they continue to evangelize, but they were having among them people who were holding the teaching and doctrine of Balaam, who allow and condone immoralities among their workers and the new people that they are reaching out. The Scribes and the Pharisees in this church are those who are worldly and who are soaked with the world. In this church there is evangelism but the boys intermingled with the girls and have girlfriends and the girls intermingle with men and have boyfriends. Fornication is spread in this church. This church allow food offered to idols to be inside the church, who allow celebrations like birthdays, Christmas, New Year, Valentine, Father Day, Mother Day, Halloween, food offered to entice girls for relationships, etc. If you are like that God wants you to repent and keep doing your ministry and evangelism away from allowing immoralities and allowing food and what is offered to idols (demons) and worldly celebrations to be used to bring people to the church.

*4. The letter of Jesus Christ to the church in Thyatira, the playing church. Thyatira means theater: “18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass; 19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. 21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. 28 And I will give him the morning star. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 2:18-29 KJV)*

The Pharisee and the scribes in this church are those:

- Who serve God, evangelize but they have their own agenda.
- Those who keep and tolerate immoralities and condone and cover up those who do such like boyfriend, girlfriend, fornications, live-in relationship, divorce and remarriage, a single mother or single father who marry a partner not the father or the mother of her or his children.

- Those who allow celebrations and what is offered to Satan and demons, like birthdays, Christmas, New Year, Valentine, Father Day, Mother Day, Halloween, food offered to entice girls for relationships, etc.
- Those who accept make up, perfumes, indecent dress and those who accept and promote gadgets and internet in the hands of children and young people, and those who allow mixing and allow young people to be together without their parents as we know all these promote immoralities and fornications.
- Those who are greedy and use the church for making money and treasure.
- Those are playing church and use the government of the church to extort and to use people and to abuse the people of God and the ministries of God, and take advantage of the flock under their care. The church becomes a base for business. Those who work havoc in His church and use the body of Christ for positions and privileges and abuse offices.
- Those who use politics to fight and harm God’s servants who do not compromise with them and who do not condone or agree with their politics and wrong doings and the immoralities and fornications that they are promoting.
- Those who refuse to discipline and condemn those who do such.
- Those who refuse the judgment of God on His church because of such and those who sympathize with those who do such and resent and fight against the church who discipline such people.
- Those who worship Mary and honor her as Jesus, such the Catholics and the orthodox churches.

Look into all that we mentioned and if you are the same of such, then you need to repent, otherwise God’s judgment will come on you, in the form of bed sickness and death on you and yours if you refuse to repent and mend your ways.

*5. The letter of Jesus Christ to the church in Sardis, the dead church: “1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. 4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. 5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. 6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 3:1-6 KJV)*

The Pharisee and the scribes in this church are those:

- Those who are unfaithful; they forgot and they are not aware of what they had received and heard from the Lord, although they had received much. Nothing good in this church, they don’t evangelize, they don’t deal with immoralities and fornications and other sins in their members, and they are careless about that. They are worldly, linked with material things, and they are not willing to walk closely with Christ and observe precisely what they need to do to obey Him fully.

- Who either don't have the Holy Spirit or they don't use and follow the Holy Spirit in their life and ministry; that is why they are dead as if they are not born again.
- Those who are lazy, complacent, indifferent to what they have received of teaching, admonition and warning.
- Those who use talents for ministry and not the gifts of the Holy Spirit that God gives through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit that we read in **Romans 12:6-8**, **1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28**, and in **Ephesians 4:11**. They are not led by the Holy Spirit
- Those who are either boasting with their previous experiences and achievements and now they are doing nothing, but living away from doing the will of God, or they are living in sin. They have reputation being alive but they are dead.
- Those who all their works are not perfect, or not complete.

If you are like that you need to repent otherwise Christ's judgment will come on you at a time you are not expecting it: ***"I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee."*** (Revelation 3:3 KJV) Jesus threatened this church to blot out their names from the book of life. Repent, renounce all your sins, be faithful and remember what you heard and received from Him, obey Him, return to Christ and His ways, and seek to be filled and refilled with the Holy Spirit, otherwise Jesus will blot out your name from the book of life.

***6. The letter of Jesus Christ to the church in Philadelphia, the victorious church that continue in love and bore persecution and continue the ministry serving the Lord: "7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; 8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. 9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. 10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. 11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. 12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. 13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."*** (Revelation 3:7-13 KJV)

The difference between this church and the church in Ephesus, the church in Ephesus did great work in the ministry and in the evangelism, but when they faced the liars and the evil doers and those who caused division in the church they were discouraged, but this church continued; as if the persecution encouraged them, they continued, and have more fruit during persecution because they continued to live in holiness, and they continued in love to serve the Lord, to serve the brethren and to reach new people, through using the new doors that Jesus opening for them to evangelize, and making new disciples, following precisely with obedience the leading of the Holy Spirit, and hold fast to what they received from the Lord. Because of their perseverance their members are the pillars of God's church.

The opposite of the brethren of the church of the Philadelphians are Pharisee and the scribes; those who refuse to continue in love and serve the Lord, and refuse to use the open doors that God open for His church to evangelize and who refuse to suffer persecution, and refuse to continue to live in holiness. If you are such you need to repent. When God opens a door for you to evangelize and declare the mystery of Christ; you need to use it to preach the Gospel and to declare the Word of God and His will, and you need to continue to live in holiness and accept suffering while you are continuing in serving God.

***7. The letter of Jesus Christ to the church of the Laodiceans, the compromising church: "14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. 21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."*** (Revelation 3:14-22 KJV)

The Pharisee and the scribes in this church are those:

- Who are compromisers, speak flatterers, people pleasers, and tolerant to all doctrines, beliefs, and practices just for the sake to please people.
- Those who fear man more than God.
- Those who by their compromises they might be even saying to the Lord that we don't need you but we need the people and their favor for us.
- Those who avoid suffering and trials using lies to justify their compromises.
- Those who promote democracy and people's rights, and not the Word of God nor the will of God.
- Those who condone and promote lies.
- Those who are dishonest and unfaithful witness for Christ.
- Those who with their compromises had let Christ outside their lives, outside their families' lives, outside their ministries and outside the church.

If you are like that, time for you to repent, to humble down, renounce your arrogance, and accept to suffer for Christ, and allow Him again in your life, He is knocking at your door to enter your life and to enter His church.

***My dear and beloved:*** God in His mercy is sending His Word to us to give us another opportunity to repent and to be changed. Review now what you heard and read, and consider your ways and see where you are from these patterns, and where you are not

fulfilling the Word of God, so you need to repent and amend your ways and start once again to live in holiness for God and to restart to serve Him.

**My prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I thank you for this clear Word that shows who are the scribes and Pharisees in the New Testament church.*

*Come to the Lord and confess your sins and renounce all your shortcomings and lack of commitments. Lord I confess and renounce the following sins*  
\_\_\_\_\_.

*Lord I commit myself to abide with the instructions that I received today from your Word. Lord I commit myself to serve you and to do the very things that I lack and what your Word describes to me.*

*Lord thank you for my brethren and sisters who repented and amended their ways; who are willing to be corrected and walk in your ways. Lord help them to accomplish what they promised you, and to do what is right according to your will and to your Word.*

*Lord we commit ourselves as a church to be transformed and comply with the message and do what we lack in service unto you. We commit ourselves to live the life that you ordained for us to live. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and go before us, and help us to evangelize and teach your Word and make disciples and train workers so that your name will be glorified and your will be done in our midst. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus' name, Amen.*

Lessons from the sermon of Jesus on the mountain Part 67. The Pharisees and the scribes of the New Testament church in pertain to the seven candlesticks that are the seven churches that Jesus sent to them individual letters. Matthew 5:20, 15. Revelation 1:20. Revelation 2:1-29. Matthew 16:25. Revelation 3:1-22.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf  
The Church Overseer  
Church of God  
United Arab Emirates  
[www.churchofgoduae.com](http://www.churchofgoduae.com)  
Email: [thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com)  
Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

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